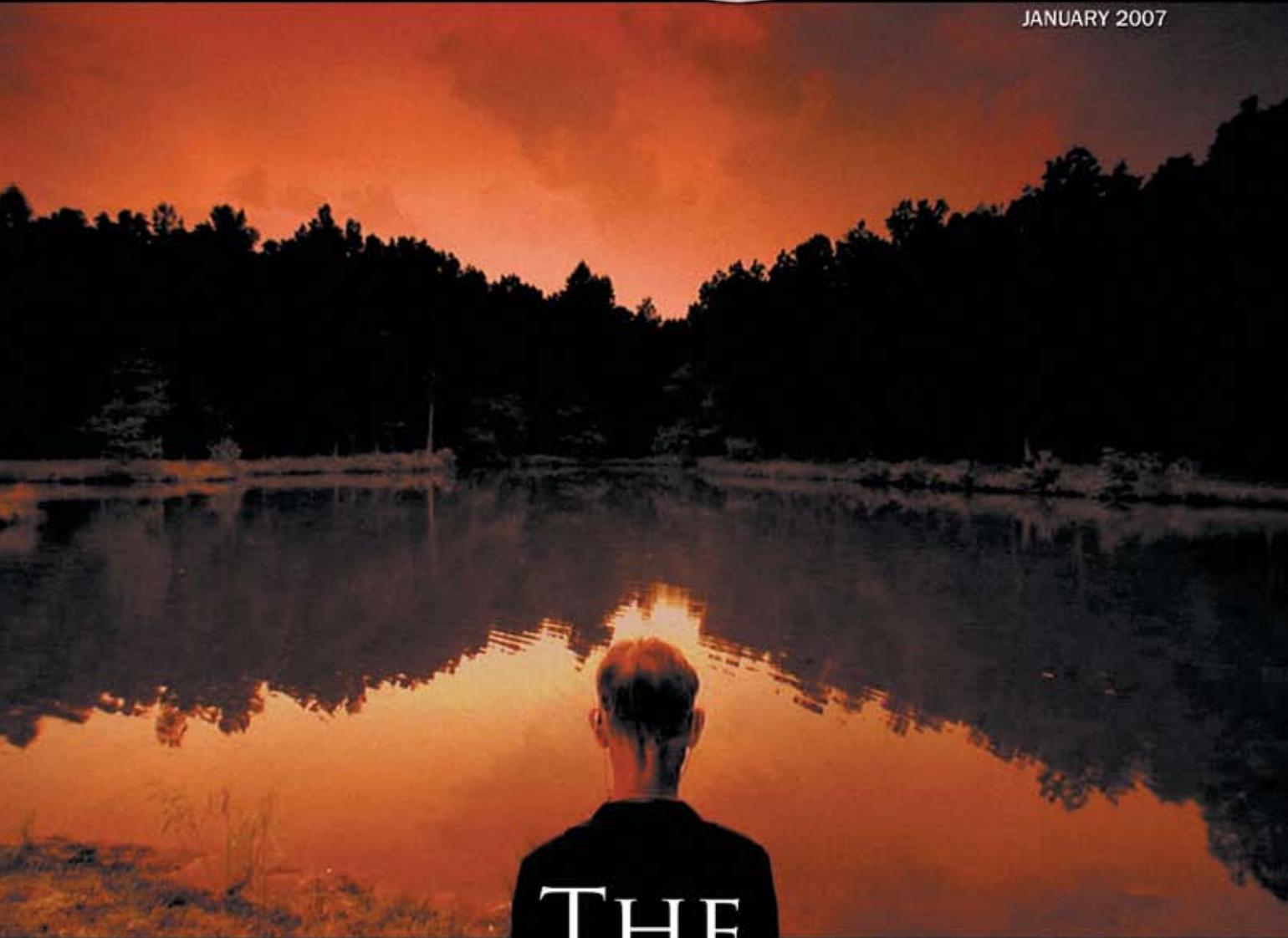
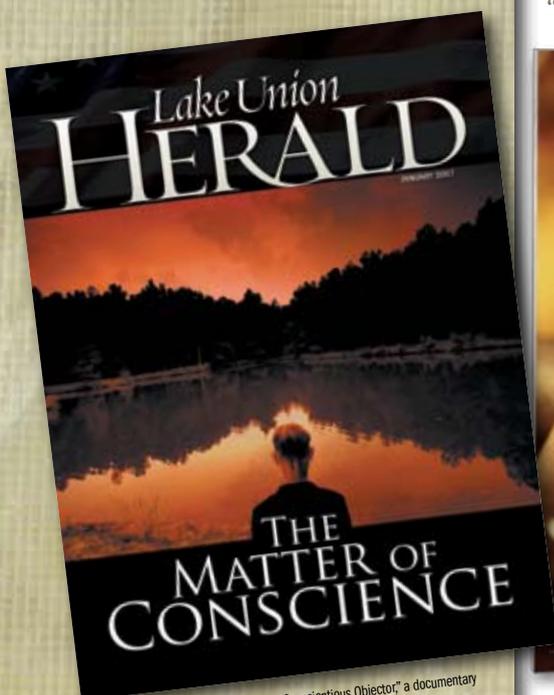


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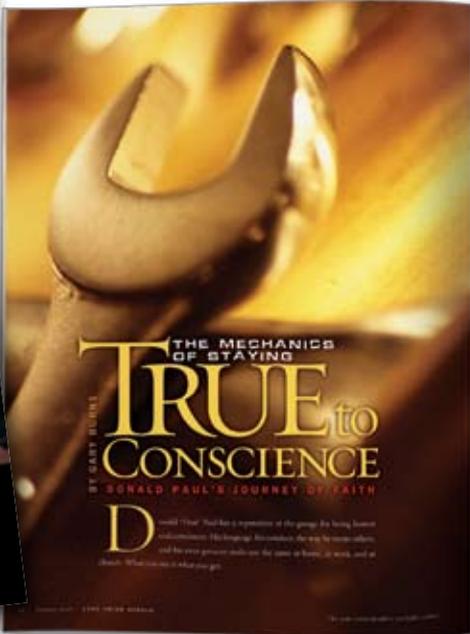
JANUARY 2007



THE  
MATTER OF  
CONSCIENCE



Cover photo from "The Conscientious Objector," a documentary on the life of Desmond T. Doss by Terry Benedict



**14** True to Conscience by Gary Burns

If you need to take your seat in the theater that serves good homes for some women: The True to Conscience section. (Editorial review comes late in the issue.) By the way, the book, which has been written for decades, is now being translated into Spanish. The book has been a bestseller for years. It was written by Desmond T. Doss, who served in the Korean War. He was a conscientious objector, but he was not a pacifist. He was a Christian. He was a man of faith. He was a man of courage. He was a man of conviction. He was a man of integrity. He was a man of honor. He was a man of God. He was a man of true to conscience.

... [The rest of the article text is partially obscured and difficult to read due to the image quality.] ...

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**T**he freedom to follow one's conscience, as it relates to the practice and expression of religion, is becoming a rarer commodity in an ever-increasingly volatile religio-political landscape. The issues also appear to be so complex and varied, making it difficult to find consensus even among Adventists.

We hope the experiences and perspectives presented in this issue will cause us to examine the degree to which we live true to our own conscience, and prompt us to evaluate the degree to which we are willing to allow others to live by theirs.

*Gary Burns*  
Gary Burns, Editor



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# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

## A Close Call and a Mighty Rescue

I needed work in the worst way. There was my wife and two little boys to provide for. When I told the personnel man (now known as human resource people) that I could not work on Saturdays, he turned me away with regret. The decision was made not to make that mistake again. When applying for a job at the big Frigidaire plant in my hometown of Dayton, Ohio, I never mentioned Sabbath issues.

Frigidaire hired me to work the second shift, which was 3:00–11:00 p.m. I reported for duty and worked all week, praying for a miracle. Thursday evening I informed my foreman that I could not report for the Friday night shift. He was livid. I asked if any arrangement could be made with another worker on the same shift. “Not a chance,” he informed me. I was told to come in Sunday evening to pick up my five-day paycheck, and I was once again unemployed.

Next, I signed on to work second shift with the United States Postal Service. It seems rookies always get the weird shifts because people with seniority have first choice for first shift. I was assigned to the Parcel Post section, where employees worked until all parcels were shipped, regardless of the number of hours. It was great, because I could make lots of overtime pay. I was allowed to work two weeks before given the pink slip.

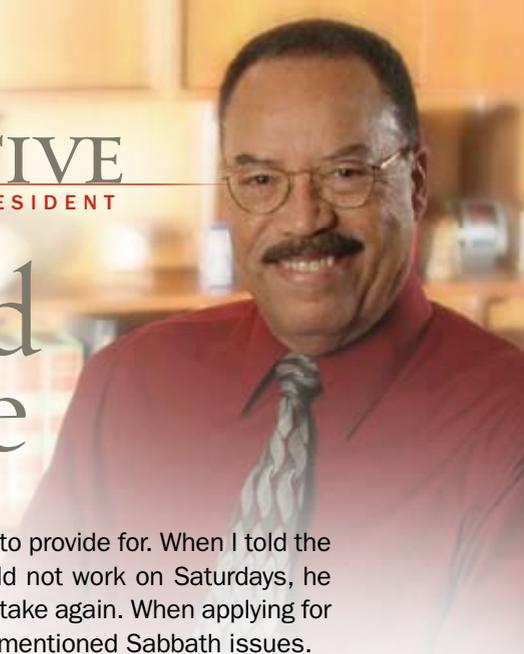
My friend, Calvin, told me that the Defense Supply Agency had openings and was hiring. We both applied. They had a required form that all employees signed for employment. Essentially, it said, “I agree to work Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, if needed.” Calvin refused to sign, and was summarily dismissed. The interviewer spoke to me privately and informed me that this job as a warehouseman would never require work on those days. I signed and got the job. My conscience nearly ate me alive. It seems the Lord never allows His children to be comfortable while in rebellion. Thank God.

The head personnel man called me at home that night. Now that was strange. It was Friday evening, and I was to report for work the following Monday morning. He said, “I was reviewing your application and noticed that you stated your religion as Seventh-day Adventist.” I said that was correct. “Well,” he continued, “I have known several Adventists, and none of them would agree to work on Saturday. Are you really willing to work Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays?”

Isn't God good? He not only would not allow me to get away with a lie, but He also was defending the name of His church. I admitted to the man that I had no intention of working on Sabbath, and he said he would tear up my papers. Whew! That was close!

A year later I applied for the position of contract negotiator at the same facility and was not given the form to sign. That was my entry into federal service, and I continued for 15 years before entering the Adventist ministry. I had occasion years later to ask the new personnel director if the form was still a requirement. She said, “Oh yes, but I knew you would not sign it, and I also knew you needed the job, so I never gave you the form.”

Praise God! “Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you” (Jeremiah 7:23).



# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

**Illinois** September 30, 2006, was a special day for **Hope Bencho**. It was the day she was baptized and became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. But for Hope, it was more than just a symbol of a new birth. It was a tribute to God's work of healing in her life.



After a painful experience with pastoral sexual misconduct and abuse, Hope Bencho (left) discovered healing in Jesus with Samantha (center) and Steve Nelson (right) of The Hope of Survivors ministry.



After downloading information about Adventist beliefs from a website and studying them thoroughly, Hope Bancho was eager to be baptized.

a supporting lay ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that addresses the painful topic of pastoral sexual misconduct and abuse.

She reached out for help and unknowingly began a journey down a path of truth and healing that God had prepared for her. As her phone and e-mail conversations increased with Samantha Nelson, co-founder of The Hope of Survivors, so did her longing for healing and her desire to live by Christ's principles. But it also seemed that the more she desired a restored faith in God, the greater her challenges. Hope became discouraged and for nearly six months had no communication with Samantha or anyone

Hope had been a Christian, but a tragic event had shattered the spiritual life she had. Hope had been abused by her pastor. He had betrayed her trust, taken advantage of her vulnerability as he counseled with her, and, ultimately, was the reason she lost her husband, many of her friends, and her church family. He had betrayed her trust. She determined she'd never set foot in a church again, nor would she ever trust a pastor.

In the depths of despair, with no hope of healing, God provided a way. Hope learned of The Hope of Survivors,

at The Hope for Survivors. Her condition worsened and she became suicidal, and made plans to end her life.

Then there was a breakthrough. Samantha and her husband Steve opened up their lives and their home to Hope and provided several days of intensive counseling and support. She left a "New Hope," filled with peace and a desire to live. She had a new purpose—to serve God.

Hope began to drop hints that she was ready for something more. She had been surprised to learn some of the teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church while at The Hope of Survivors. Later, Hope downloaded the 28 Fundamental Beliefs from an Adventist Web site and began to study. At the conclusion of her investigation, she was eager to be baptized and become a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Everything seemed to fall into place, and Hope was baptized during the Three Angels Broadcasting Network's Fall Camp Meeting. Hope's baptism made history. She was the first outdoor baptism in the Thompsonville Adventist Church's history, and the first baptism through the work of The Hope of Survivors ministry. As John Lomacang, Thompsonville Adventist Church pastor, mentioned at the baptism, it is only fitting that the first one be named Hope. May there be many more baptisms in the days, months, and years to follow. Glory be to God!

For more information about The Hope of Survivors, please visit [www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com](http://www.TheHopeOfSurvivors.com).

Samantha Nelson, The Hope of Survivors co-founder and a Thompsonville Church member

**Indiana** **Jordan and Alyssa Vallieres** both publicly committed their lives to Jesus on Sabbath, August 4, 2006. Before their baptisms, they both testified of their love for Jesus before their church family.

"Today, I (Jordan Vallieres) am taking a stand for Jesus because I want to join His family. I have been so wonderfully blessed to have a loving family, church family, and great friends. My school teachers, Sabbath school teachers, my pastors, and my family have made such an impact on me to make me want to be baptized into His family today."

"I'd first like to thank Christ for accepting me (Alyssa Vallieres), despite all my sins. It amazes me what love my Creator has for me with all my inadequacies. So, just having God say that I am even worthy to offer my life to Him is a sheer miracle.



Before their baptisms on August 4, 2006, Jordan and Alyssa Vallieres joyfully expressed their excitement about dedicating their lives to Jesus and thanked those who helped lead them to Him.

“As a teenager, life issues arise daily, and I find myself trying to take on all of my problems instead of allowing my Lord to handle them for me. I love music, and it reminds me of the song, ‘What a Friend We Have in Jesus.’ I especially like the verse that says,

*O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry,  
Everything to God in prayer.*

“That is what I know my baptism is all about: making a commitment to Jesus, my Savior, my Forever Friend. I’d like to thank all of my church members and family who have pointed me toward the straight and narrow way. The greatest joy is knowing that I now have a place in Heaven for me. God bless.”

Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church News Bulletin

**Michigan** This past spring, I (**Samantha Rae Parkey**) was baptized. It was such an awesome experience. Here is how I came to this spectacular event in my life.

I attend the Owosso Seventh-day Adventist Church and church school. I have wanted to get baptized for a long time. This past year Curt DeWitt came to be our new church pastor. He comes over to our school most every week to have worship with us. One day, he came to school for worship, and he asked who would like to be baptized. He asked us to write our name on a piece of paper if we were interested in studying with him. Six people—**Sydney Shelton, Stephen DeWitt, Nathan Arend, Izabella Ashcraft, Isiah Ashcraft**, and I—went up and wrote our names.

We each received a baptismal book for teens. The book had nine lessons in it. We did one lesson each week, and

learned about symbolism, the parts of the temple that contained the Holy and Most Holy place, and a whole lot more interesting Bible information.

Then came the day I had been longing for: March 4, 2006. It was the day before my dad’s birthday. My dad and several of my other relatives came for my special day. Their support meant so much to me. Five of us who were going to be baptized went to the basement of the church and put on our blue robes. (Nathan Arend decided to wait to be baptized on his twelfth birthday, which was May 27.)

We came back upstairs and sat in the front pew. The pastor called each one of us up, and we got to pick out a rose. We signed a certificate saying we knew the fundamental beliefs of the Church. Then, each of our parents got to come up, tell a little story about us, and say how proud they were. I know my parents were very proud of my decision.

In our church, we have a tradition where everyone waves to the baptismal candidates, which means they are accepting us into our church. Our pastor likes to do this to show that everyone will support us as new members. We all went into the little room off the baptistry. The pastor called us up one at a time and baptized us. It was so awesome! Our pastor also had the privilege of baptizing his own son, Stephen. I know that was so special for both of them.

Later, the church presented us with a new Bible with our names imprinted on it. I have made a commitment to read from the Bible each day. I want to get to know Jesus more. I am looking forward to Heaven so much, and I am so happy I was able to be baptized.

Samantha Rae Parkey, Owosso Church member



After completing Bible studies (from left), Sydney Shelton, Izabella Ashcraft, Samantha Parkey, Stephen DeWitt, and Isiah Ashcraft were baptized and became members of the Owosso Church.

# Witnessing on the Front Lines

BY MARY BETH MORROW

On a brisk November Sabbath, students at Broadview Academy embarked on an adventure in outreach. It was also the beginning of the “Steps to Christ” spiritual emphasis week with four off-campus volunteers. Little did the faculty and students know what God had in store.

Much to the surprise of Fred Warfield, Broadview Church pastor, 20–25 students clamored aboard the buses and headed out to the nearby community. Their mission for the day was to distribute paper bags to the people in the community, leaving each bag for one week to be filled with food items for the needy. The students were divided into four teams with each team covering a designated area. Not



Fred Warfield (back center), Broadview Church pastor, coordinated the students who volunteered to collect food for the needy in their community. From left: Jonathan Babb, Sara Crowder, Josh Burt, Marc Nacker (holding the note attached to the food collection bags), Adam White, and Kristine Reed

knowing what kind of response they would be met with, some students were a little hesitant at first, but in spite of the cold, students were soon warmed by the kindness of the people they approached. Donna Coon, a junior at Broadview, said, “This is a great way to minister—to just get out there on the front lines and not worry about how people will respond. God can work through any situation ... this really has gotten me excited to do more things for Christ.”

The following Sabbath, another group of students and faculty returned to pick up the paper sacks full of food. Once again the pastor was amazed when even more students showed up than the week before. He had hoped to pass out *Steps to Christ* to the people as the sacks were picked up, but realized he didn’t have any. The Lord had already

solved the problem. An ample supply of the needed books was left over from the “Steps to Christ” presentation at the academy the previous week.

As the students returned to campus, they sang songs and shared their experiences of how they prayed with the people and gave them *Steps to Christ* in appreciation for their donations. There was not one negative experience. “This is just the boost needed

to encourage the students to be more involved in outreach,” said the pastor. “Outreach is definitely one way I know of to keep my spiritual life alive—sharing Christ with others. This has given us all an appetite to do more for the Lord.”

We received nearly 30 bags of food to be delivered to the Northern Illinois Food Bank. We were able to bless those less fortunate and shared with our own community that Broadview Academy is here to serve our fellowman and to be a reflection of Jesus’ love to this dark world. We look forward to future opportunities to serve the Lord in any way we can as we “Touch Everyone 1 for Jesus.”

Mary Beth Morrow is the marketing and recruiting coordinator at Broadview Academy.



# Mission in Mexico

BY JOSH PARK

**T**welve Chicago Central Korean Church members left for Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, on July 8, 2006. Half of the missionaries were first-timers, but all were well-prepared. Stopping only for quick meals and bathroom breaks, we arrived 27 hours later in a packed van.

Throughout the week, we did the finishing work on a church constructed by a previous group from our church three years earlier. We painted inside the church, and later put up stucco and painted the gates and windows of the church.

After work, we spread God's Word at Vacation Bible School (VBS). We taught Bible stories through skits. We acted out Jonah and the whale, Noah's ark, Daniel and the lion's den, Jesus calming the sea, and the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We also prepared songs in Spanish and a craft for each story.

After VBS the first day, we had not accomplished everything we wanted to. We addressed our problems and decided to incorporate more exciting songs with actions, since the vast majority present was less than eleven years old. We prayed for God's aid, and He really came through the next evening.



All the missionaries gathered for one more group photo with their Mexican friends before leaving for home.

The following evening we executed our plan to perfection. Kids clapped, saluted, and had fun with the songs. We heard "¡Una vez más!" (Again, again!). Song service was the most popular portion of VBS. Interest in our skits grew each day. By mid-week, both we and the children waited all day for VBS, and we could see God's presence in the children's eyes.

We visited community families in need. At four households, we gave food and prayed for God's blessing. One household was composed of a single mother with six young



Proud students showed off their lion puppets during Vacation Bible School after hearing the story about Daniel and the lion's den.

children whose father had recently died. With no income, they were in jeopardy of losing their home. We gave them much-needed food and money and prayed for the family, hoping to raise the mother's spirits.

The group visited a mother whose daughter had died recently. Her tragic story brought tears to all who heard it. We wanted to help as many people as possible by healing

their emotional wounds, and we succeeded in spreading God's love in the process.

A major reason for the trip's success was the Mexican people's generosity. Fidel, church building coordinator, and his entire family were so gracious and helpful, often inviting us to dinner. The Mexican families brought food every morning while we worked. It was so difficult to say good-bye to them. They gave their best to us, even though it was trivial; they truly followed in Jesus' footsteps.



The missionaries worked in the hot sun to build a new Seventh-day Adventist Church for Nuevo Laredo residents.

We were blessed and strengthened by this mission trip. Each morning and evening we gave time to God. Each high school student led a Bible study in the evening, helping us grow spiritually as leaders. We knew our work was for God's glory, which greatly took the physical burden off our shoulders. God was with us each day in Mexico, and He was good to us. Thanks to Him, alone, we enlarged our Christian family across the border to Mexico.

Josh Park is a member of the Chicago Central Korean Church.



# The Afghan with a Story

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

A few weeks ago I was trying to “take good care of myself” and truly rest on the Sabbath. When I decided to lie on the sofa to read and rest in the living room, I first went into our bedroom, reached up into the wardrobe, and pulled down the afghan. This is an afghan with a story. It symbolizes two women who understood each other. It symbolizes one woman’s understanding of another’s pain. It remains an emotional connection between my husband’s Aunt Esther and me. Aunt Esther passed away at the age of 96 in 2004.

I draw strength, courage, and most of all comfort from this afghan. White with almost fluorescent pink, purple, and lavender zig-zags, it would not be what I would have picked out for myself. But it’s precious to me. It also signifies a very sad day in my life when my dear father-in-law, in his distress and grief at leaving his home and many of his belongings, shouted at me with some very hurtful words.

When we feel threatened, humans are known to flee or fight. I’m one who flees. I fled back down the street to Aunt Esther’s house where my husband Don and I were sleeping at night. I quietly went downstairs, but she had noticed me come in. As I cried on the bed, Aunt Esther came in and asked what had happened. She said she understood and that Beth (my mother-in-law) had also come at times in her marriage to be comforted because of “Joe’s harsh words.”

Aunt Esther left the room and shortly returned with a hand-crocheted, new afghan, and said she wanted me to have it. This is still a first generation afghan, but it already has a story. I like to think of it’s comforting warmth and of Aunt Esther’s care for me that day.

I’m reminded of a beautiful book for children

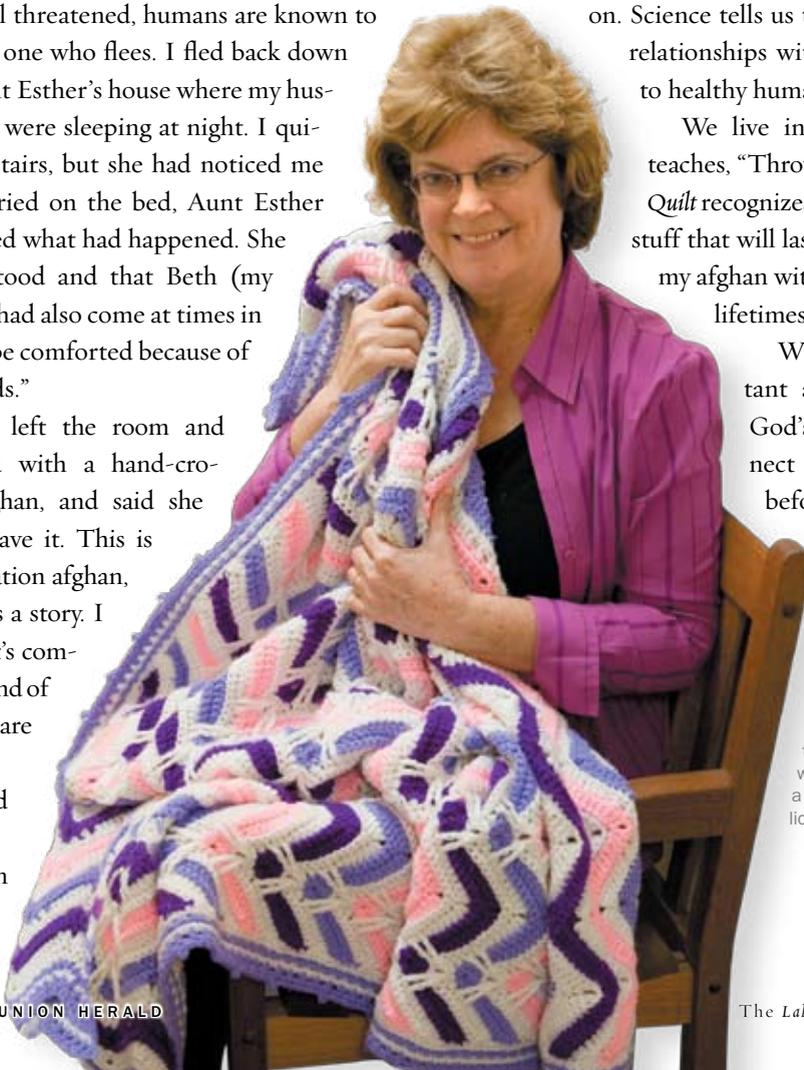
by Patricia Polacco, *The Keeping Quilt*. This is Patricia’s story. It is a story about a quilt that was kept with her family through six generations. It became a touchable, huggable diary that quietly told the story of this Jewish-Russian family who came to America.

We all need something in our life that is constant. Children thrive when there are some things they can count on. Science tells us that the nurturing and stable relationships with caring adults are essential to healthy human development from birth.

We live in a throw-away society that teaches, “Throw-away. Buy new.” *The Keeping Quilt* recognizes the importance of treasuring stuff that will last for many lifetimes. Perhaps my afghan with a story will be treasured for lifetimes to come in our family.

While certainly not as important as the Holy Scriptures and God’s promises, when we can connect with those who have gone before us, our faith is strengthened, and our children can better understand a God whose traditions are relevant today.

Susan Murray (left) is an associate professor of family studies who teaches behavioral science and social work at Andrews University. She is a certified family life educator and licensed marriage and family therapist.



## What Shall We Drink?

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

*Diet sodas may not help with weight loss.*

*Many beverages are laced with sugar and/or caffeine.*

**T**he average American consumes 21 percent of their calories from beverages. This represents an increase of 150–300 calories more than was consumed 30 years ago. Most of this increase comes from sweetened fruit drinks and soft drinks. In addition, the portion size of beverages has also increased.

An overuse of beverages could be a factor in the increased incidence of obesity in America. Beverages are less satiating than solid foods. Hence, liquid calories don't turn off the appetite control mechanism as readily, and we don't compensate later on by eating less food.

Beverages vary dramatically in caloric value and nutritional profile. A can of V8 juice provides 70 calories, a cup of regular soymilk has 90–100 calories, a cup of orange juice has 110 calories, a cup of low-fat milk has 120 calories, and a cup of grape juice provides 150 calories. Commonly consumed beverages that come in greater serving sizes typically provide two to four times more calories. For example, a 12-ounce bottle of Snapple lemonade provides 220 calories, a 20-ounce bottle of 7UP provides 250 calories, while a 20-ounce fruit smoothie provides about 400 calories. Compare this with a medium Baskin-Robbins vanilla shake, which tops out at 980 calories.

Too many beverages are loaded with sugar, some of which contain eight to 15 teaspoons of sugar, or even more. Herbal teas generally provide neither calories nor caffeine. In contrast, black tea has 50 mg of caffeine per cup, while a 20-ounce Diet Coke has 80 mg of caffeine. Compare this with 12 ounces of Starbucks coffee with 300 mg of caffeine, and a 20-ounce Starbucks coffee with 500 mg of caffeine.

Switching from a non-caloric beverage to one containing a caloric sweetener can produce a gain in body weight. However, the use of artificially sweetened diet drinks does not necessarily help overweight persons lose weight. Such people often compensate for the missing calories and make up by eating extra calories later on. In spite of the advertising campaigns, there is no convincing evidence that drinking milk will help you lose weight.

While fruit juices contain many vitamins and minerals, the juices are usually devoid of fiber and have about twice the concentration of calories than a serving of fruit. While vegetable juices such as V8 have fewer calories than fruit juices, they are normally very high in sodium. Sports drinks are very popular today and typically contain fewer calories than soft drinks. However, they don't provide any real advantage to the average athlete.

The amount of fluids one needs to drink varies greatly, according to the individual's metabolism, body size, the level of exercise, and the ambient temperature. The overall recommendation is to drink four to eight glasses of water per day, and cut back the use of other beverages as much as possible.

Winston Craig, Ph.D., R.D., is a professor of nutrition at Andrews University.



# EXTREME GRACE

## Special Considerations

BY DICK DUERKSEN

**W**e were producing a new Hi-Definition video for Health and Healing TV; Dave and I got up early and stayed out late in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National parks. As is common in September, it froze on Thursday, snowed on Friday, and stayed cold through Sunday, even though the sky showed blue.

Three times we photographed the Old Faithful Geyser.

**The Third Time:** Arrived at the geyser viewing area ten minutes before a “blow.” All by chance. Great eruption. Blue and white sky. Good light. Photo would be great in a calendar. Video will improve the attitudes of many emergency room patients.

**The Second Time:** Planned carefully. Arrived early. Set up perfectly to match the prevailing breeze and waited for 90 minutes. Should have been photographing mud pots rather than standing in the cold. Nice sky and good light. But when Old Faithful finally erupted, he blew right at our cameras. We would have been better off photographing steam in the hotel shower.

**The First Time:** Snow clouds were looming like wind-jammers and Dark Grey was the color of the day. But, Old Faithful was scheduled for 9:16 a.m., and we had tripods on the ground. Ready for nothing. Or for everything! So we stomped around watching our breath become ice crystals.

Two tall tourists joined us, bundled against the wind like Eskimos hoping to sight a whale.

“Kinda dark,” one said.

“Yep. But it’ll be bright when the geyser blows,” Dave responded.



“How do you know that?” they both asked.

“We asked God for some special consideration!”

They laughed at our certainty and wondered aloud, “Do you have special connections or something?”

“If He cracks the clouds and lights this eruption,” I commented at 9:18 a.m., “I will praise the name of the Lord forever!”

That’s when God lived up to His billing. First, He turned Old Faithful on with a bright white spurt, then a couple spasmodic belches, then a rumbling explosion spewing 20, 30, 100, 150 feet into the sky.

As Dave and I collected digital images, the sky cracked, and God shined an atomic torch directly onto the gey-

ser. Not on the surrounding trees. Not on the grey clouds. Just on the geyser, sparkling its scalding spray with Divine Diamonds until the eruption was over. Then the light blink-off and all was grey again.

“I didn’t believe in Him,” the watcher muttered, “till now.”

“The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy” (Psalm 126:3 NIV).

Dick Duerksen is the “storyteller” for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact the author by e-mail at [dduerksen@maranatha.org](mailto:dduerksen@maranatha.org).

Photo by Dick Duerksen



# Military Service

Since its beginnings the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been challenged with the issues of what members should do in time of war. We are admonished by Jesus to be loyal citizens (“Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s”) while remaining loyal to God (“and unto God the things that are God’s”) in Matthew 22:21. What does one do with the commandment “Thou shalt not kill,” when faced with a military requirement to bear arms?

Historically, Seventh-day Adventists are noncombatants (serving without weapons). This position was officially registered with the Federal Government at the time of the Civil War and developed along these lines:

**1864**—Adventist leaders received recognition and approval as being conscientiously opposed to the bearing of arms from the governors of Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

**1918**—Woodrow Wilson issued an executive order allowing for religious conscientious objectors to serve in the U.S. military.

**1938**—The General Conference authorized \$30,000 to construct barracks and begin training of noncombatants at Loma Linda and the Washington Sanitarium for pre-induction training in the medical corps.

**1950**—Everett Dick began the Medical Cadet Corps at Union College.

**1953**—The U.S. Army began Operation Whitecoat and nearly 2,500 Adventists volunteered as human subjects in medical preventive medicine studies.

**1954**—Annual Council voted noncombatancy as the church’s official position. The National Service Organization was implemented to support Adventist military personnel.

**1969**—Annual Council affirmed the 1954 statement, but changed the wording to “the church advocates noncombatancy, but allows members to elect to be pacifists as well.”

**1972**—Annual Council affirmed the 1954 and 1969 statements, but recognized that the issue was a matter of conscience for each individual. Members were strongly encouraged to consider the historical position of noncombatancy while leaving the door open to elect to bear arms.

During the Civil War, the Adventist Church, primarily a Northern organization of abolitionists, struggled with issues of identity and theology. After much discussion, the position was to serve honorably in the military, but to do so as noncombatants.

In 1969, the U.S. was involved in the controversial Vietnam War, and many of its citizens expressed opposition—one form being pacifism. The military only recognized those individuals who could show religious support for their pacifism by releasing them to alternate duty. As a matter of conscience, some Adventists chose to be pacifists. When drafted, they were denied that status because their choice was inconsistent with the church’s stated position. Thus, in 1969, the statement was adjusted to accommodate pacifism as a choice while encouraging members to serve as noncombatants.

Since the Adventist Church is a world-wide organization and many nations do not provide an option to serve as a noncombatant, the church chose not to make noncombatancy a mandate. As members began to select how they would serve, some elected to bear arms and to serve as combatants without denominational endorsement.

Recognizing the personal conscience and convictions of the individual member, the church seeks to provide information so that personal choices are informed choices, and where possible, to provide members with legal, spiritual, and practical support.

Information provided by Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries. For further information, please call 301-680-6780, e-mail [acm@gc.adventist.org](mailto:acm@gc.adventist.org), or visit website [www.adventistchaplains.org](http://www.adventistchaplains.org).

## Reaching the Deaf for Christ

BY ESTHER M. DOSS

The October 7, 2006, DeafNation Expo in Chicago was a great place for Marvin Budd of Berrien Springs, Michigan, and Jim and Bunny Hovey of Adventist Deaf Ministries, based in Mesa, Arizona, to reach Deaf individuals for Christ.

DeafNation travels around the United States, hosting expos in various cities, celebrating Deaf culture. Huge crowds of Deaf people attend these expos—in fact, more than 4,200 attended the Chicago event. “It is great to be in a community where ASL (American Sign Language) is the expected mode of communication, and we don’t need interpreters,” Marvin notes.

The Hoveys and Marvin had pamphlets, outreach magazines, and other materials to give away. The most popular give-away items were the New Testament Bibles and two DVDs—one was “Final Events”; the second was “Our World a Theater,” a two-hour program in sign language explaining The Great Controversy.

Attendees also had the opportunity to sign up for a free outreach magazine subscription and Bible studies. As Deaf individuals looked over and chose materials, the Hoveys and Marvin gently engaged them in conversation, expressing cheer and love of Christ. Marvin recounts, “People came by to pick up handouts and ask questions. We [were] able to answer some questions. A young couple [came] to explain how their life changed since giving [up] bad health habits and to talk about why we are here. Bunny gave them some extra information about the Sabbath.”



Bunny Hovey shared materials with a booth visitor.



Marvin Budd (back left) and Bunny Hovey (back right) talked with people as they visited the Adventist Deaf Ministries booth at the DeafNation Expo in Chicago.

“Deaf people are a family,” Bunny, Deaf herself, shares. “For example, in Chicago, there were a lot of people, but not all were from Illinois; many were from Wisconsin, and some from Michigan, Indiana, Alabama, Florida, as well as Iowa. Deaf people go far and near just to get together in one place.” Since attendees were individuals from all over the United States, many contacts and materials are now scattered across the nation.

With approximately 6 million Deaf people in North America, this is a huge mission field right here at home. Sadly, at this time, roughly only five percent of Deaf people attend any church, mosque, or synagogue.

Headquartered in Mesa, Arizona, since 1998, Adventist Deaf Ministries (ADM) is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization. For additional information, contact: Adventist Deaf Ministries, P.O. Box 6114, Mesa, AZ 85216; website: [www.deafadventist.org](http://www.deafadventist.org); e-mail: [adm@deafadventist.org](mailto:adm@deafadventist.org).

ADM offers a quick reference guide for Deaf ministry entitled “Can You Hear Us?” This 24-page booklet is free to anyone who requests it.

Esther M. Doss is the correspondent for Adventist Deaf Ministries.



## DILO AL MUNDO— DILO A TU MUNDO

POR CARMELO MERCADO



**S**i visitas el edificio donde están las oficinas de la Asociación General de los Adventistas del Séptimo Día en Silver Spring, Maryland vas a notar una escultura que representa la segunda venida de nuestro Señor. La escultura está dividida en tres partes. En la primera parte en una pared se ve a Jesús en las nubes acompañado de ángeles. La segunda parte es una representación del pueblo de Dios de todas las razas, con los brazos extendidos y semblantes que expresan mucho regocijo. La tercera parte está sobre otra pared en la cual se ve a un ángel que tiene a un niño en los brazos y lo lleva a su Salvador. La escultura representa en forma maravillosa la bendita esperanza que hemos de anunciar al mundo—Cristo vive, Cristo salva y Cristo viene otra vez.

En la sesión de la Asociación General que tuvo lugar en St. Louis en el año 2005, nuestros líderes de todo el mundo votaron comenzar una iniciativa misionera llamada Dilo al Mundo. Dilo al Mundo contiene una visión abarcante cuyo propósito es dar una oportunidad a todo ser humano de conocer a Jesús como el Salvador del mundo. La iniciativa tiene siete componentes.

**Primero**—Se espera que haya un crecimiento espiritual en el pueblo de Dios y que por lo menos el 65% de la membresía tenga su devoción matutina en forma regular

**Segundo**—Se espera que por lo menos el 40% de los miembros esté participando activamente en la comunidad.

**Tercero**—Se espera que en el presente quinquenio se añadan cinco millones de personas a la membresía total de la iglesia por medio de testimonios personales de los hermanos.

**Cuarto**—Se ha desarrollado un plan misionero llamado Esperanza para las ciudades grandes cuyo propósito será llevar el evangelio a los millones de habitantes en las ciudades grandes del mundo.

**Quinto**—Se espera establecer 20,000 iglesias nuevas en lugares donde no hay presencia adventista y dar mayor apoyo a las 17,000 iglesias que se han establecido en el quinquenio anterior.



*De ellos es el reino de los cielos*

**Sexto**—En este componente se desafía a nuestras iglesias en todo el mundo para que auspicien por lo menos una campaña evangelística por año. También se desafía a los jóvenes para que den más de 100,000 campañas durante este quinquenio.

**Séptimo**—Se espera desarrollar aún más los medios masivos de comunicación como el Internet, la radio y la televisión para poder

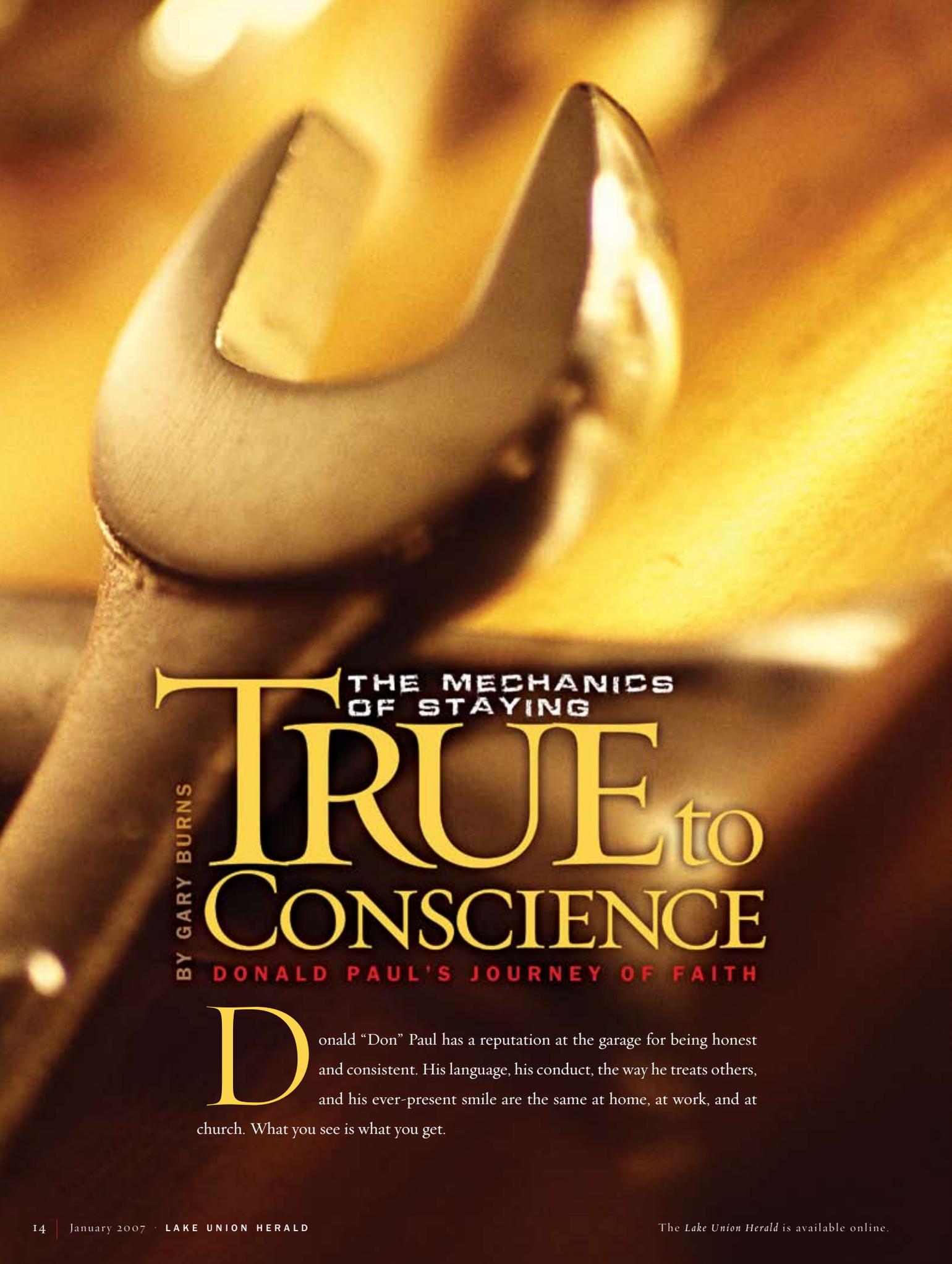
compartir la palabra de Dios.

Los líderes hispanos de nuestra división han adoptado y adaptado esta iniciativa, e invitan a cada hermano y pastor de iglesia a que participen en el programa llamado Dilo al Mundo - Dilo a tu mundo. Además de adoptar los siete componentes de la iniciativa se incluyen los siguientes:

1. Capacitar a los líderes laicos.
2. Formar nuevos líderes hispanos.
3. Desarrollar ministerios para los hispanos de segunda y tercera generación.

Invitamos a cada hermano hispano para que desarrolle con sus líderes planes y actividades que resulten en una iglesia unida con una sola misión—Decirle al mundo—Decirle a tu mundo—que Cristo es la única solución del pecado.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.



THE MECHANICS  
OF STAYING

TRUE to  
CONSCIENCE

BY GARY BURNS

DONALD PAUL'S JOURNEY OF FAITH

Donald "Don" Paul has a reputation at the garage for being honest and consistent. His language, his conduct, the way he treats others, and his ever-present smile are the same at home, at work, and at church. What you see is what you get.

If you need to take your car to the dealer for service, you'd better be sure someone like Don does your service. Dealer service centers pay their mechanics by the job, not by the hour, which leaves room for dishonest workers. The less time spent on a job, the more money one takes home. Don may not be known as the fastest mechanic, but cars rolled out of his bay are done right.

Unfortunately, the conscientious are often ridiculed by those threatened by their integrity. Don was occasionally the brunt of some practical joke, or worse, the object of a rude comment by a fellow worker. That didn't dissuade him; he continued to do right simply because it was right.

Don dreamed of a job that could adequately support his family without the pressure of a system of dishonesty and compromise, yet he knew that to have God's direction and blessing, he needed to take care of a few issues in his life. One issue was not returning a faithful tithe. This "minor" inconsistency in Don's life robbed him of peace. One day he announced to his wife Kimberly (who had been praying for him all along), "I am under conviction that I need to start being faithful with my tithe. I've got to live something that I already know I should be doing and haven't been doing."

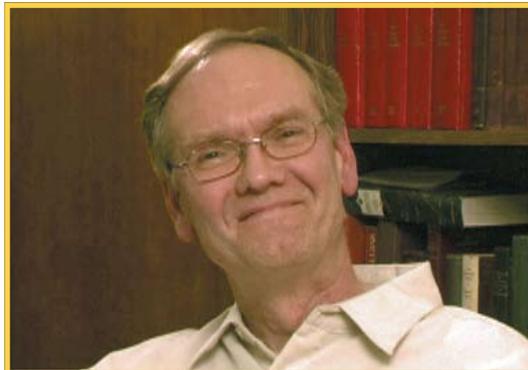
"That decision changed everything for us," recalls Kimberly, "because it united our family in a purpose for Christ. It was wonderful to see his faith growing in a way that I knew God had intended it to grow."

Don describes his faith as always growing, based on an intimate relationship with Jesus—one in which an abiding sense of God's providence and direction is present—a relationship based on prayer.

Don prays and watches for God's leading and guidance. "The Lord teaches me patience in my life from week to week and month to month and year to year. He doesn't always answer and give me an immediate sign. It's a stretched-out leading and guidance," Don reflects.



*Don Paul's decision to return tithe united his family in a purpose for Christ. From that point forward, God opened doors Don never dreamed of.*



*Don Paul dreamed of a job that could adequately support his family without the pressure of a system of dishonesty and compromise.*

Don saw a poster advertising a position for a mechanic in the postal motor pool in Grand Rapids. He jotted down the contact information. Doing fleet work for the government was just the kind of work he wanted.

His imagination began to explore new possibilities for what God might have in store for him. With Kimberly's support, he stepped out in faith, completed the online application steps, and registered online for the written exam. Don received confirmation and prepared to take the test in Lansing, Michigan. Six weeks later, he received the good news that he had passed and was approved to take the hands-on test.

Don waited, and waited, and waited to receive notification that he had been scheduled for the test. It seemed that God was once again developing his patience and

dependence upon him. The notice finally came, and Don was tested in five categories, which he knew he passed without any trouble. But again, he had to wait several weeks to receive the official results.

Things were looking up, even though it had been seven months since he first saw the poster. "The Lord was leading step by step, slow and steady. And that's just what I needed to teach me some faith," Don assessed.

Another three months went by before Don was scheduled for an interview. More comfortable working with his hands than answering questions, Don prayed before the interview, asking God to help him do his best.

As part of the interview process, Don toured the shop. His excitement began to build as he imagined working in such a place. But again, he had to wait.

Don was encouraged when they scheduled him for a physical. In good health, he passed with flying colors and was surprised when they later scheduled him for a second physical. When he arrived at the medical office, there was some confusion so he called the manager.

It turns out the second physical was just a paperwork glitch. The call to the manager resulted in a job offer. Kimberly

remembers when she learned he was hired and the excitement and joy that filled his face, knowing that God was blessing him. She also recalls how Don's countenance changed when he soon remembered, "You know, they've never mentioned Sabbath before in any of the interviews. Not once did it ever come up that there could be work on the weekend, but I feel convicted that I need to call him back, even though I'm hired, and let them know that I'm a Seventh-day Adventist and that's important to me."

"He called the employer back and said that he felt God wanted him to mention that, and [asked], 'Would that be a problem?' To see him go from such joy to such dejection when he realized that the Sabbath was going to be an issue, and his dream job may be taken away, [was difficult]. I was proud of him because he said to the man, 'Sabbath is important because it is who I am—it's who God made me to be; and you've hired me because I am the person I am—because I honor God. If I agreed to work on the Sabbath, then I wouldn't be the person you want in your employ.'

"And so, Don stood for his convictions, and I've never, ever, been prouder of him in my entire life," Kimberly expressed.

The manager said he would see if accommodations could be made and would call back in an hour. Don and Kimberly prayed. Had all this effort and work over the past year come to nothing? No, it wasn't possible; they had felt God leading the whole time.

By faith, they left to see the house where they were making arrangements for Don to live during the week until their house in Coldwater sold. They barely traveled one block when the manager called.

"We really want you to work for us," he began. "There won't be any Sabbath issues. We're going to work that out. Show up January 10 for orientation, and we'll go from there."

Don reported for orientation and that went well, but when he arrived for work on the fourth day, he became nervous. He learned they had never had a Sabbath-keeper work for them before; he was the first. The next day his heart sank when he learned he was scheduled to work on Saturday, just two weeks after he began.

"We didn't know what to do," Kimberly recalled, "except go to our Father in prayer. He came home that weekend very sad, thinking that maybe this job was going to end after all."

Don remembers the frustration: "I had been on the job five days, and I didn't know if I was going to have a job the next week or not. So, we made a prayer request at church, and we went on in faith from there." Despite this setback, they were convinced God had designed that Don should have this job.

The Pauls contacted Vernon Alger, Lake Union public affairs and religious liberty department director. His counsel was helpful, although not very encouraging. Vernon reported the church had not had much success in that area, and encouraged them to pray and call upon others to pray. He assured them that if the job worked out, it would only be through God's intervention in response to prayer.

Don returned for his second week of work, not knowing if he would have a job past Friday.

On Tuesday, his manager asked how serious

Don was about Saturday. Don assured him that being a Seventh-day Adventist and following the Lord in this way was his religious conviction, and he appealed for accommodation.

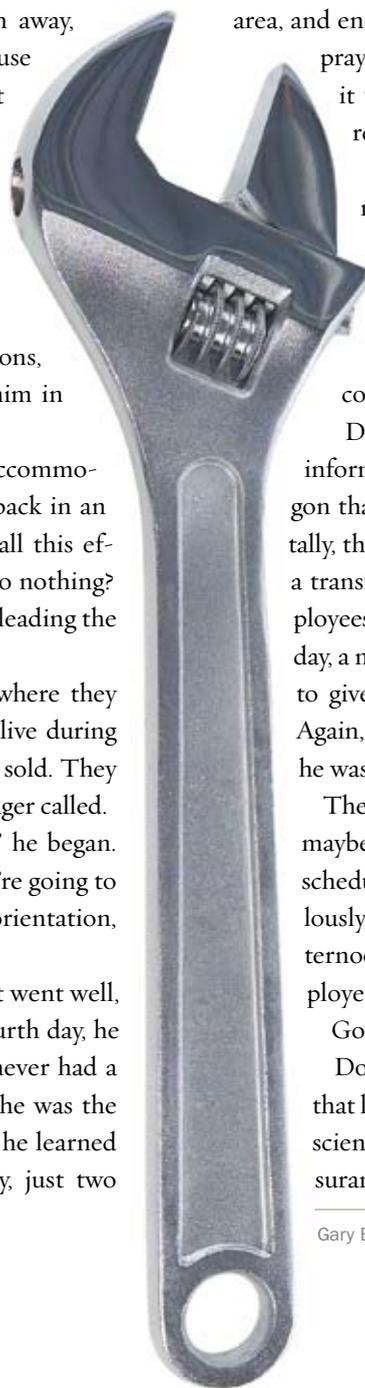
Don's manager thought for a moment, and then informed Don about their auxiliary garage in Muskegon that did not do service on weekends. Coincidentally, that same week, a Muskegon employee requested a transfer to Grand Rapids. According to policy, employees with seniority had first option. On Wednesday, a meeting was called to announce the opening and to give opportunity to submit requests for transfer. Again, Don had to wait. Friday morning Don learned he was the only one who had put in a request.

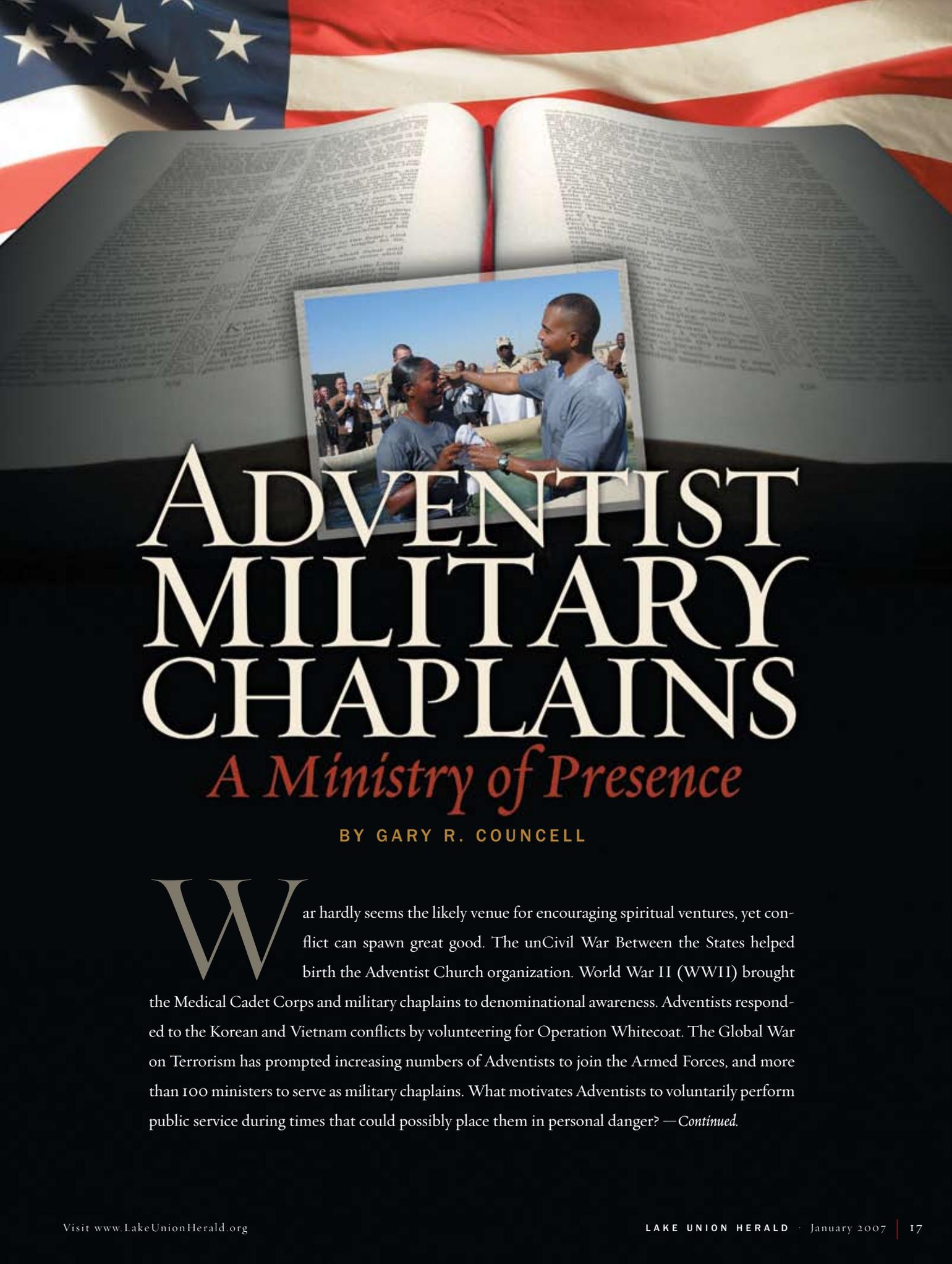
The transfer paperwork could have taken weeks, maybe months, and he was still faced with being scheduled to work the next day, Sabbath. Miraculously, his manager filed the necessary papers that afternoon, and by five o'clock Don was an official employee of the Muskegon facility with Saturdays off.

God accomplished the impossible.

Don's faith continues to grow, but he discovered that living by his convictions and being true to a conscience rightly trained gave a sense of peace and assurance, and opened up unimaginable possibilities.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.





# ADVENTIST MILITARY CHAPLAINS

## *A Ministry of Presence*

BY GARY R. COUNCELL

War hardly seems the likely venue for encouraging spiritual ventures, yet conflict can spawn great good. The unCivil War Between the States helped birth the Adventist Church organization. World War II (WWII) brought the Medical Cadet Corps and military chaplains to denominational awareness. Adventists responded to the Korean and Vietnam conflicts by volunteering for Operation Whitecoat. The Global War on Terrorism has prompted increasing numbers of Adventists to join the Armed Forces, and more than 100 ministers to serve as military chaplains. What motivates Adventists to voluntarily perform public service during times that could possibly place them in personal danger? —*Continued.*



Adventists are citizens of two kingdoms. Natural birth bequeaths citizenship in the homeland of one's parents, whereas citizenship in God's heavenly kingdom comes with the new birth experience. Both kingdoms require allegiance and place demands on the individual. How do dual citizens prioritize loyalties, especially when situations cause a choice between expectations? When pressed to choose, most Adventists would readily acknowledge their first allegiance should be to a heavenly kingdom, but would also admit feeling torn by a sense of duty to their earthly homeland.

This dilemma can be resolved by exercising a practical faith that fulfills spiritual responsibilities to God by serving one's fellowman. Such faith operates on a horizontal as well as on a vertical azimuth; it balances the objective with the subjective. Warped faith becomes so heavenly oriented it is no earthly good. Adventism advocates a balanced, holistic lifestyle that endeavors to prepare people to meet Jesus Christ.

When called to serve their earthly kingdom, Adventists around the world have found ways to honorably serve God and country. John Weidner saved more than 1,100 Dutch and French Jews from Nazi concentration camps. Walter Logé treated wounded Wehrmacht soldiers on the Eastern Front during WWII. Keith Argraves, Desmond Doss, and many other servicemen who should be named endured POW camps, wounds, and hardships while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces during all the conflicts of the past 60 years. Some Adventists, like Jack Pomeroy in Vietnam, lost their lives in the process of saving life. Public service often demands personal sacrifice.

Besides being conscripted, Adventists serve in the military for a variety of reasons. Patriotism and a sense of belonging appeal, while the liberal benefits are attractive. Some seek adventure, vocational training, or a job. Others join to practice the helping professions. Some personnel convert to Adventism and continue serving in the military. Adventist ministers wear the uniform for some of those reasons, but primarily to ensure thousands of church members can freely "exercise their religion." These clergy ambassadors enter circles normally closed to denominational influence and represent Adventism by their ministry of presence.

Currently, 50 Adventist chaplains serve on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. Another 40 belong to units in the Reserve Components, and more than 20 volunteer in the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force (USAF). Since 2002, several Adventist chaplains have been deployed in Afghanistan, and more than a dozen have served in Iraq. One Adventist chaplain has been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received from enemy fire. Many of those who have been deployed overseas are chaplains assigned to one of the Reserve Components like Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Keith Mattingly, U.S. Army Retired, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Andrews University, and Chaplain (Captain) Philip Willis Jr., a pastor in the Lake Region Conference who recently returned from a year of duty with the Army in Iraq.

Contrary to one popular misconception, ministers do not leave the ministry when they become chaplains. All chaplains are pastors, but not all pastors are called to be chaplains. Much like their civilian peers, military chaplains provide worship services, sacraments, religious education, and pastoral care for Air Force, Army, and Navy personnel and their family members. But chaplains do more. They are advisors to commanders on matters of morale, morals, and religion. They conduct leadership training, marriage and family seminars, singles retreats, suicide prevention classes, and numerous other events and programs that promote spiritual well-being. When their unit deploys or their ship sails, they accompany it in peace and war. Through ministry of presence the chaplain endeavors to bring men and women to God, and God to those who must do their duty during difficult times. Spiritual readiness contributes to moral ascendancy, and moral ascendancy is the basis for victory. Before the battle, chaplains prepare the living. During battle, chaplains nurture the wounded and minister to the dying. After the battle, chaplains honor the dead. Chaplains must be courageous in spirit and compassionate in service.

Few ministers are acknowledged to be a person's pastor who is not the pastor of that person's church or does not belong to the same faith. Yet, routinely, service members of all faiths or even no faith readily say with some enthusiasm and pride, "That's my chaplain!" Chaplains minister in a



religiously pluralistic setting to enhance the faith of those they serve, rather than impose their own faith on the service member. The focus of ministry rests on the service member instead of building a religious kingdom on earth or the chaplain's ego. That requires a high degree of professional, personal, and spiritual security.

Chaplains benefit from extensive periodic training and schooling. Most chaplains have additional degrees beyond the M.Div. (Masters of Divinity). Many are specialists in marriage and family therapy, health care or prison ministries, world religions, etc. Chaplains represent some of the brightest and best clergy of their endorsed faiths. They are an excellent asset and resource to their denominations.

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) seeks quality rather than quantity. Chaplains must give evidence of their calling to this specialized expression of ministry. They remain accountable to and must maintain ties with the Church. ACM provides endorsement, resources, training, and other forms of support to Adventist chaplains.

During the two World Wars of the Twentieth Century, Adventists drafted into the military often experienced opposition for living their faith. Some were court-martialed and imprisoned. Since the Church has begun to endorse chaplains, those kinds of occurrences have become rare. Adventist chaplains resolve most conflicts around accommodation of religious practice behind the scenes at the lowest levels. In 1985, Congress enacted legislation that mandated the Department of Defense recognize and accommodate, with certain caveats, religious practices such as dietary requirements, observance of holy days and the Sabbath, wearing of religious apparel, and medical treatment. A Department of Defense directive requires each of the services to follow suit. Adventist members in uniform who logically, sincerely, and consistently practice their faith are valued by commanders and seldom experience conflicts over religious practices. These service persons are contributing to their commands, communities, and chapels.

Though chaplains must be cognizant of religious pluralism, they are not required to violate the tenets of their endorsed faith. Chaplains are free to preach, teach, and practice their own faith, insofar as distinctive faith services

and observances are advertised as such, and participation is voluntary. Chaplains can pray anywhere, anytime, in any manner; however, when invited to pray at events where attendance is mandatory and the audience is comprised of many faiths or no faith, Christian courtesy and respect would dictate the prayer be faith neutral. By Geneva Convention, all military chaplains are noncombatants and do not bear, train with, or use weapons.

Within a relatively short span, Adventist chaplains have been promoted to the highest leadership levels of the military chaplaincies. Barry Black served as the Navy's Chief of Chaplains before becoming Chaplain of the United States Senate. Chaplain (Colonel) William Broome is the Pentagon's pastor, while Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Jonathan McGraw serves in a key position as the only chaplain in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (also in the Pentagon). Chaplain Dave Girardin was recently promoted to Captain in the Navy and serves as Chief of Pastoral Care in a large naval hospital. The Deputy Command Chaplain in Iraq is Lieutenant Colonel Steve Torgerson, USAF.

Whether in supervisory, leadership positions, or just beginning their first tour of duty, Adventist chaplains are making a credible difference as positive witnesses for the faith and pastors to our members. They are "Telling the World" and baptizing scores of adults.

I hope greater numbers of conference leaders recognize the validity of chaplaincy ministries and chaplains' contributions to the denominational mission. I have faith that arrangements can be made for seminary graduates to obtain pastoral experience even if they cannot be employed as full-time pastors. There are ways to achieve professional proficiencies by alternative tracks as outlined in the North American Division Working Policy. That kind of help by Church leaders would open the door for those who are called to chaplaincy ministries, but do not get hired as pastors. It's a win-win for the denomination and graduate.

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Chaplain Gary R. Councill is the associate director/military endorser for Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries in the General Conference and North American Division. After serving 32 years on active duty as an Army chaplain, he retired March 1, 2006. Councill's personal biographical information and his comments about how to become a military chaplain are available online at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org). See also [www.adventistchaplains.org](http://www.adventistchaplains.org).



*A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead (Luke 10:30 NIV).*

# The Matter of Conscience and Spirituality

BY CHRIS BLAKE

**T**he Master told the story of the Samaritan, the stunningly godly citizen, the merciful heathen. It's a familiar parable. But as Becky Pippert points out in *Hope Has Its Reasons*, "Christian truths are unknown, because they are too well known."

I sit at a table with 11 students; nine college, and two high school. It's 8:15 on Tuesday night, and as our weekly custom dictates we are writing letters. My current letter opens,

"Dear Attorney General:

"I write because I am seriously concerned about the safety of someone who has reportedly 'disappeared'..."

Each Tuesday night the Amnesty International (AI) chapter at Union College meets to pray, discuss world events, plan events, and write letters. AI is a worldwide non-political voluntary movement with 1.8 million members in more than 150 countries who work primarily on behalf of prisoners of conscience—people who have never used nor advocated violence, who are being raped, tortured, jailed, threatened, and killed because of what they believe.

We are seldom certain how effective our letters are, though occasionally we hear of releases. Here are two actual samples:

"When the first two hundred letters came, the guards gave me back my clothes. Then the next two hundred letters came, and the prison director came to see me. When the next pile of letters arrived, the director got in touch with his superior. The letters kept coming and coming—

three thousand of them. The President was informed. The letters still kept arriving, and the President called the prison and told them to let me go."

"For years I was held in a tiny cell. My only human contact was with my torturers.... My only company were the cockroaches and mice.... On Christmas Eve the door to my cell opened and the guard tossed in a crumpled piece of paper. It said, 'Take heart. The world knows you're alive. We're with you. Regards, Monica, Amnesty International.' That letter saved my life."

Two of the students at the table often miss chapel services at our college. What astounds me is that I know people who see these two students as "less spiritual" than those who miss our AI meetings every week. The belief persists that the supreme act of spirituality is "going to church." This concept, of course, is foreign to Scripture. As evangelist Billy Sunday famously observed, "Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you a car."

What is the measure of true spirituality? First, we should be aware that even normative standards for measurement can be flawed. For example, basketball players are always

measured from the tops of their heads to determine playing height. But, unlike soccer, no one does anything useful in basketball with the top of her or his head. A truer calculation would be to measure from the tip of an outstretched arm. A 5'9" player with a short neck and long arms can be legitimately taller than a 6'2" player with a long neck and short arms. What matters is the reach.

In Christianity, the spirituality question is also one of reach. Who will reach out like the Samaritan? Many Christians seem to have lost sight of the truth that real spirituality is found in justly, mercifully, and humbly doing acts of love. "Going to church" is primarily important because it enables us to become better lovers in realms where people can be reached.\* The week doesn't prepare us for the Sabbath so much as the Sabbath prepares us for the week.

God is personal but never private. Jim Wallis, editor of *Sojourners* magazine and a prophetic voice in the wilderness today, affirms, "When spirituality isn't disciplined by the struggle for justice, we can become narcissistic. Cynicism is a buffer against commitment." Three billion people live on less than two dollars a day. Each day, 30,000 children die from lack of clean drinking water and starvation-related causes. How does this square with celebrity infatuation and the entertainment world's endless self-hype?

Wouldn't it be horrible if our Master continued His story, "So likewise when a Seventh-day Adventist came to the place and saw him, the Adventist remained securely in the current comfortable lane and passed by on the other side?"

Let us walk on the right side of spirituality. The side where we touch the world's hurt. The side of risky response. The side that moves us beyond loving mercy to doing justly.

## DOING JUSTLY EVERY WEEK

Do you ever wonder if there's a better exit from a motivating Sabbath sermon than to shake hands, smile, and think about lunch? How many times can a person get inspired to do something for God and do nothing?

What if, instead, upon exiting a sermon, members encountered on a ministry gallery a menu of options to pro-

vide practical help to someone in the community? On the gallery in the foyer is a list of contacts, times, and phone numbers for church members to assist someone in need. A member sits behind a table to sign people up and answer questions. Possible ministries include providing car mechanic service to single moms, paying an electric bill for a month, giving Bible studies, doing yard work, intercessory praying, writing letters for Al, tutoring with the local literacy council, etc.

This means the church exerts as much energy on finding people to help and helping them as it does in running its own programs. This may mean electing a ministry team and coordinator as regular church officers. It definitely means providing a substantial budget and involving new and young members in leadership positions.

Tony Campolo tells a parable of touring an oil refinery where petroleum is broken down into gasoline, lubricating oil, and other products. At the end of the tour someone asks, "Where is the shipping department?"

"Oh, there is no shipping department," the tour guide explains. "All the energy generated in this refinery is used to keep the refinery going."

When most of the money and energy of the church is consumed in promoting its own programs, building its own membership, and constructing its own buildings, it becomes an end to itself. A whitewashed tomb. Another saltshaker on display.

No church is "being spiritual" until it has enabled every member to be vitally involved in an ongoing, conscience-driven, enjoyable ministry.

Peter Benson, president of Search Institute, described a church he attended that emphasized true spirituality. "The most sacred moment of the church service," he concluded, "was when they opened the doors of the church and we walked back into the neighborhoods where we live."

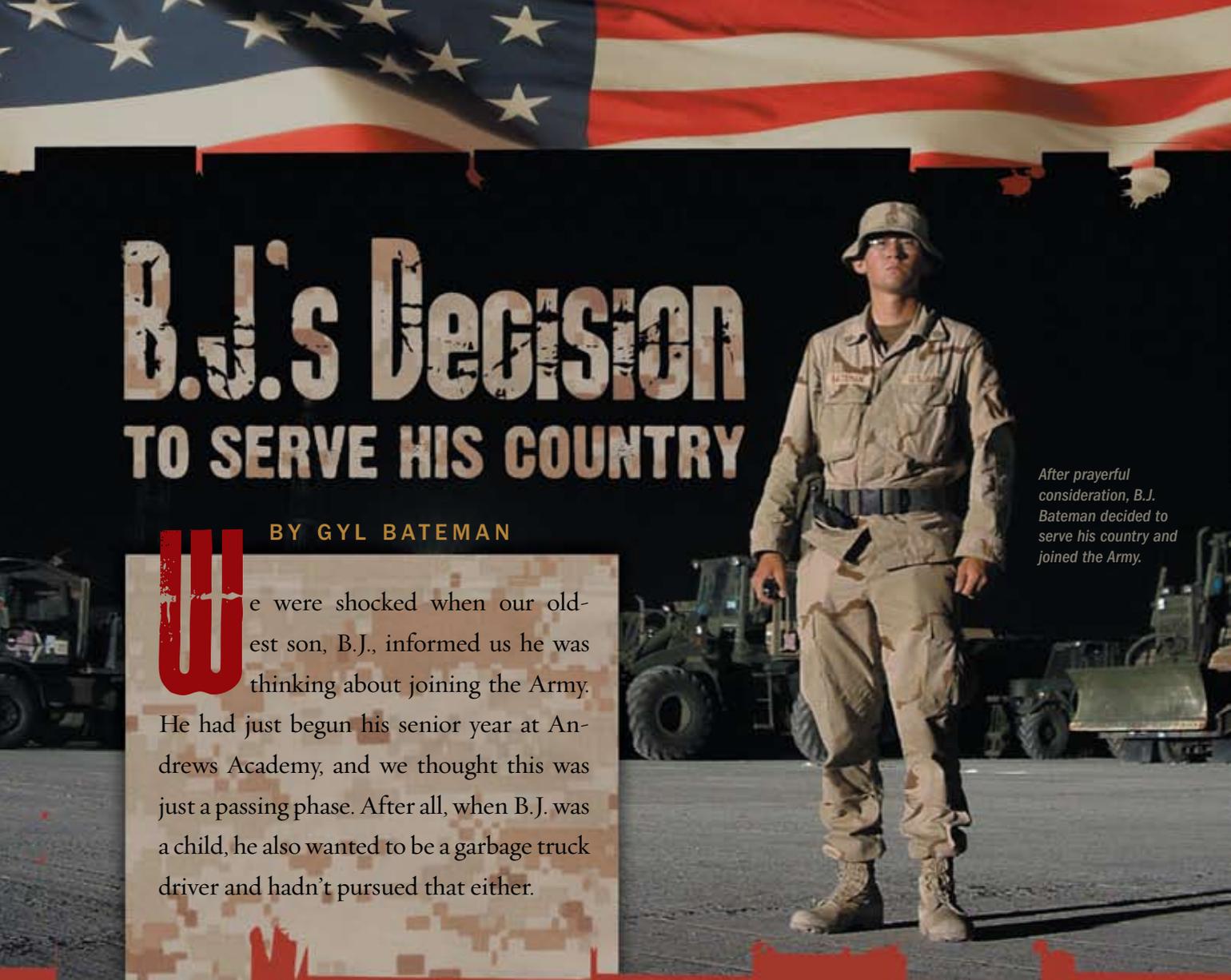
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Chris Blake is the associate director of English and communication at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska. This article is an excerpt from his new book, *Swimming Against the Current: Living for the God You Love*, scheduled to be released by Pacific Press this spring.

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\*The original "altar call" was invented by Charles Finney to sign up people in church for an anti-slavery petition.

No church is "being spiritual" until it has enabled every member to be vitally involved in an ongoing, conscience-driven, enjoyable ministry.



# B.J.'s Decision TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY

BY GYL BATEMAN

**W**e were shocked when our oldest son, B.J., informed us he was thinking about joining the Army. He had just begun his senior year at Andrews Academy, and we thought this was just a passing phase. After all, when B.J. was a child, he also wanted to be a garbage truck driver and hadn't pursued that either.

*After prayerful consideration, B.J. Bateman decided to serve his country and joined the Army.*

Then came September 11, 2001, and our son became more fervent about his decision to join the Army. He sought as much information as he could.

We pleaded with B.J. not to join. One of our concerns was for his college education. He convinced us he would continue college when he graduated from high school, and believed joining the Michigan National Guard part-time would help to pay his tuition. He planned to work one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer, and then start college in the fall.

We talked to our son about consulting God first before making a decision of this magnitude and made it a matter of prayer. After talking to his youth leader as well as some other people who are in the military, he went with his recruiter one night in December to Lansing, Michigan, to

enlist with the Army. I was disappointed to learn that parents are not allowed to go with their children unless they are less than 18 years of age. B.J. had turned 18 in October and was considered a legal "adult."

Our son returned the next evening grinning—happy that he had made his decision. He seemed relieved and started to tell about his test results. He said he tested academically and physically as one of the highest for his group.

B.J. graduated from Andrews Academy in June and then took ten credits at a local community college before leaving for Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He continued Advanced Training in the Military Police and graduated on January 17, 2003.

Immediately, he was deployed, which meant active, full-time duty paid by the Federal Government instead of the

State. He was ordered to report for duty in Pontiac, Michigan, and later to Fort McCoy in Wisconsin. We were able to go see him some weekends and shared a lot of quality time when we were together.

On May 8, B.J. left for Kuwait where he worked 12-hour days and more, helping to process the soldiers who were going home and securing equipment once it has been processed. He was able to call home a couple of times, but not for very long. I emphasized to B.J. that he might be put in a situation where he may have to defend his beliefs, or may be called upon to support another person struggling with his or her own beliefs.

After a year in Kuwait, we expected B.J. to come home for a two-week R&R (Rest & Relaxation). We were anxiously looking forward to his arrival when he called to say that he was just about to board the plane. I scurried around with renewed energy, trying to get last-minute things done.

We were discouraged to learn the next day that he was still in Kuwait and that his departure had been delayed indefinitely due to a terrorist threat in Amsterdam where he was to make a connection. We didn't hear anything more for almost 48 hours.

I contemplated calling the American Red Cross, but a friend encouraged me to just "wait and see." Smiling, she added, "No news is good news!" Ugh! Those ubiquitous clichés...

I looked on the Internet to see if the airport in Amsterdam had opened up for business, but to no avail. I e-mailed the Army office in Michigan, but the reply stated I would probably hear from my son before they would.

Frantic, I called a friend from our church. After telling her some of the things going on, she asked how I was doing. I said weakly, "Okay."

"It doesn't sound like you are," she replied perceptively.

I burst into tears.

What if they reversed his leave and he couldn't come home anymore? Maybe something else had happened and the country went into "Red" alert.

I started to focus my attention on supper, but I couldn't concentrate. I asked my two younger boys to pray with me. Within 15 minutes, my husband called with news that our son was at the airport in South Bend waiting for us. We all went to meet him—my sister and her family, along with our church family. The tears were flowing with happiness and a great sense of relief. Our reunion was one of the most joyful occasions, but all too soon our son returned to Kuwait.

I had just come out of a short meeting the day after he left when I found a gift basket sitting on my desk. Wondering who had given me this gift, I started to read the card, but couldn't continue for fear I would burst into tears.

"I don't know what it's like to raise a child to adulthood," my co-worker had written, "then watch them leave to protect a country that is often ungrateful. I don't know what it's like to pray in earnest for my child that's in a war. I can only imagine how hard it is emotionally to wait for them to come home, and when they do, you have to watch them leave again to go back to war.... This basket is for you when life is physically, mentally, [and] emotionally tough. Thinking of you and praying."

Prayers from warriors like her are what keep us and our sons and daughters going as they encounter sand storms, extreme weather conditions, smelly hot ships, drinking water shortages, venomous snakes and spiders that can crawl into their tents, and even facing death squarely head on.

B.J.'s decision has been a "journey" for our entire family. We miss him very much. Even though there have been many challenges, we are confident that God is with him and protects him. We are very proud of our son! We know B.J. believes in what he is doing.



B.J. Bateman served his country in Kuwait.



**A Mother's Special Prayer**

You are 18 and an adult,  
That is what the world says.  
You are ready to go on a mission.  
You have trained many months.  
What experiences you will have.  
What stories you will tell.  
What joys and sorrows you will share.  
Only God knows what is in store for you.  
During your time serving for your nation,  
Your mom will keep you in constant prayer.  
May you know and feel His presence.  
May you resolve to do your best for Him.  
May you return knowing Him,  
As never before.  
That is my prayer for you!

—by Gyl Bateman—

Gyl Bateman is a member of the Buchanan Church in Michigan. She praises God that B.J. has safely returned home from Kuwait. B.J. is now a junior Biology major at Andrews University.



## Spiritual Life Committee Announces “Living our Mission” Award Recipient

The Spiritual Life Committee of Adventist Midwest Health selected Brenda Kringlie as the recipient of its annual “Living Our Mission” award. An employee for the past 20 years, Kringlie is currently supervisor of accounts payable.

Employees at Adventist Midwest Health are encouraged to fulfill the corporate mission of focusing on mind, body, and spirit. Nominations are accepted throughout the year, and Kringlie’s name was chosen as this year’s award recipient. “We felt Brenda exemplified a lifestyle that truly carries out our mission,” said John Rapp, regional vice president of missions and ministry.

When Kringlie was asked to give the prayer at an Adventist Hinsdale Hospital spiritual emphasis event, she thought she was just being asked to help out. When chief executive officer Todd Werner announced her name as the award recipient, Kringlie said she was shocked. “When he said my name, I just froze. It was such a high. It’s an honor just to be nominated,” she added.

Throughout the finance department, Kringlie provides a Christian example to her co-workers by serving as a Spiritual Ambassador. Employees who volunteer as Spiritual Ambassadors nurture fellow employees through individual and group prayer support, encourage participation in devotions and Bible study, and promote friendship and fellowship. A colleague asked her to consider the program, she said, based on her ability to listen.

Kringlie attended the Spiritual Ambassador orientation program. “I



Brenda Kringlie received the annual “Living our Mission” award because she exemplifies Christian principles in her work life.

was really nervous at first, but it’s an awesome program,” she said. “In our department meetings, I mention that I am the Spiritual Ambassador and that they can come to me with any concerns.”

On her desk, Kringlie has a prayer box where colleagues can also place concerns. On Mondays, Kringlie sends out an e-mail prayer list with individual concerns highlighted anonymously.

“I think it’s important for people that there is someone they can go to at work. Finance can be highly stressful, and prayer truly helps,” she said. “I know it’s helped me. I’ve become a much more positive person. If you believe in God and have Christianity in your life, you won’t have as much stress in your life.”

In her weekly e-mails, she also makes sure to highlight any celebrations. “I think it’s important that people know that prayers are answered,” she said.

Not only does Kringlie exemplify Christian principles in her work life, but in her home life as well. A member of Brainard Baptist Church in Countryside, Ill., she volunteers with the BEDS homeless program. She also raises money for cancer by participat-

ing in the annual Relay for Life walk. And, she collects pop tops which she takes to the Ronald McDonald House, which recycles them to help defray the cost for families of sick children.

She has been married to Phil, Hodgkins, Ill., police chief, for the past 29 years. Their son, Phillip, who serves in the U.S. Army, is stationed at Fort Myers, Va. In her free time, Kringlie enjoys walking, her yoga classes, fishing, and spending time with family and friends.

Victoria Tedeschi, public relations specialist for Adventist Midwest Health

### A New Beginning

Each day is a new beginning  
With a chance to try again  
All the memories to erase  
That seem to bring us pain.

Each day is a new beginning  
When we can start anew  
To sort out our priorities  
And know what we must do.

Each day is a new beginning  
In which to do our best.  
If we take the first step forward  
God will help us with the rest.

—Olive B. Elvin—

## Meier Hall Chapel Gets a New Look

On Sept. 14, 2006, Meier Hall acknowledged the conclusion of renovations to its chapel with a dedication service. Formerly known as the Meier Hall Gold Room, it had not undergone improvements or renovations since its completion in 1965.

Characterized by walls slathered in gold, a stage with crazily angled steps, and wall panels that blended in with the stage, residents and visitors had no focal point on

which to center their attention. For years, Spencer Carter, dean of men, desired to modernize decorations and tone down the colors, noting, "We felt it needed a face-lift." Thus, with the backing and creativity of administrative assistant Michele Bunker, Carter went ahead with plans to revamp the chapel and turn it into a sanctuary.

In order to create a more unified stage, workers softened its edges and blended it with the walls. A muted taupe and cream speckled blend replaced the legendary gold paint. Electrical repairs ensured quality programming, to complement the new sound system and screen projector. Since the sound booth was placed in the room, those running it could also benefit from the service.

The dedication recognized the efforts of the various laborers and staff who helped make the chapel more beautiful with a thank-you statement and short homily. Bunker stated, "We

have committed that place to [be] a hall of worship." Thus, Meier Hall will use the chapel exclusively for religious events, among them the Thursday night deans' worship. The newly named Meier Hall Chapel will be, ac-

were held on Sabbath afternoon in the Seminary.

Hundreds of people visited the Pioneer Memorial Church Youth Chapel, which was kept open as a prayer room throughout the 24-hour period. Faculty and staff members participated by going from room to room in both the men's and women's dorms, pausing to pray with the residents. Many across campus commented that they felt the presence of God in a special way throughout the day.

"Our goal was to pray without ceasing for 24 hours; God's goal was to bless us," noted Sarah Freedman, *Power 24* organizer and senior el-



Students and deans gathered to dedicate the newly-remodeled Meier Hall Chapel.

ording to Carter, a place where "young men do encounter Christ and make decisions for Him."

Bonnie McLean, University Relations  
student news writer

## Andrews Hosts First-Ever Campus-Wide Day of Prayer

The weekend of Nov. 3-4, 2006, Andrews University held the first-ever, student-initiated *Power 24* day of prayer. For 24 hours, campus clubs and ministries worked together to provide a variety of ways to promote a period of continuous prayer across campus. And beyond just the 24-hour period of prayer, all regular weekend worship programs—including vespers, Higher Ground Sabbath school, and Mosaic—were centered around a prayer theme. Two hour-long prayer workshops



Andrews students stop to pray in the PMC Youth Chapel during the *Power 24* day of prayer.

ementary education major. "One thing to remember as we move forward from *Power 24* is that it doesn't end here. He will still continue to bless ... if only we ask."

Beverly Stout, media relations coordinator  
for University Relations

## [YOUTH NEWS]

### Glendale Youth Rebuild Playground in Puerto Rico

Indiana—In early spring, I was presented with the opportunity to accompany our church's youth group on a mission trip to Puerto Rico. My journey with Christ commenced on Jan. 28, 2006, when I was baptized into the truth by Nick Zork, Glendale Church associate pastor. It was then that I made a covenant to unite with God's blueprint for my life. After praying about the mission trip opportunity, I joyfully accepted and became the fourteenth member of our group.

On July 16, we met at 5 a.m. for our flight. I had never flown before, so I was extremely nervous. I kept praying that God would take away my anxiety and fill me with peace, for I knew this was His will. I listened to "Voice of Truth," by *Casting Crowns* as we headed to the island, eager to see what Christ had in store for us.

We were welcomed at Elias Burgos Youth Camp by Abiezer Rodriguez, West Puerto Rico Mission youth director. We stayed in cabins at the camp with no air conditioning, and some days no running water. It was definitely a change from the city. We



Glendale Church youth cleared and leveled a playground in Puerto Rico in preparation for adding sand.

were abruptly humbled, and indisputably appreciative of the blessings that Christ continuously bestows upon our lives that we often take for granted.

We helped the camp in different areas that needed work. Our most considerable project was restoring the camp's playground. We removed rocks and sticks, and also extracted roots, laid sand, and cleaned the entire area so it would be safe for the children to play on. The work was strenuous, but a joy in the Lord.

The theme for the camp was "Al Extremo con Jesus" (The Extreme with Jesus). Worship was about five or six hours each day. We heard testimo-

nies, sang songs, played games, and received blessings from the guest speaker Luis Alberto Lopez, North Puerto Rico Mission youth director. He conveyed Christ's messages of repentance, truth, salvation, and His never-ending love for us. One by one, with tear-filled eyes some made their way to the front in acceptance of our Lord. It's amazing to be a witness to someone making a decision to follow Christ.

The Friday before our departure we decided to prepare for the Sabbath by having worship at the beach. We reflected on the things we had learned and accomplished. To know that God is at work all over the world, look upon His righteous majesty, and feel His presence in Puerto Rico was such a blessing.

God says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations ... Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always..." (Matt. 28:19-20). Friends, we have an obligation to spread the word of Jesus Christ, tell of His soon return, tell the world He has chosen them—the meek and mild, the young and old, and the rich and poor—to share His kingdom. Let us go forth, and tell of His everlasting love.

Nicole Garmon, Glendale Church member



Glendale Church youth traveled to Elias Burgos Youth Camp in Puerto Rico for a mission trip. The young people had a wonderful experience while making improvements at the camp.

## [LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

### Conant Gardens Church Is Restored for Worship After Fire

Lake Region—On Jan. 25, 2005, the Conant Gardens Church in Detroit, Mich., was gutted by a two-alarm fire. Many members came to the church to see what they could do to salvage precious items from the ruins. The devastating news of the fire was carried on all the local TV stations. Churches in



A two-alarm fire gutted the Conant Gardens Church in 2005. Since the concrete block walls were still in excellent condition, the building committee decided there was no need to demolish the original structure.



Seventeen months after a fire destroyed their church, Conant Gardens Church members held a "Coming Home" Sabbath and thanked God for their new and beautiful church home.

the area opened their doors to the displaced members and provided places where they could continue to worship while they made plans to rebuild.

The building committee discovered the concrete block walls were still in excellent condition, and there would be no need to demolish the original

structure. Architects Steve Erickgon and Glen Roper were hired to draw new plans, and the Signal Construction Company was hired to do the necessary construction.

On Sept. 2, 2006, seventeen months after the fire, the renovations were complete, and the congregation walked into their new church home. They gave glory to

God and His blessings, which brought

them back to their church home. Their renovated church began its official worship services on Sept. 9, 2006, when Jerome Davis, Lake Region Conference president, led the congregation back into the church behind the Pathfinder Drum Corps. He spoke to an overflowing sanctuary, and all were blessed by the *Hands of Praise* musical group from the City Temple Church.

"Coming Home" Sabbath ended with an evening gospel concert featuring local church artists. Garth Gabriel, Conant Gardens Church pastor, and the Conant Gardens members praise God for His blessings and their new and beautiful church home.

Matilda Martin, Conant Gardens Church communication leader, with Bruce Babiencko, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent

### Vassar Church Shares Health Message

Michigan—We thank our Lord, Jesus, for the desire He gave us to reach out to our neighbors and our community more intentionally. With love's

motivation, Vassar Church members participated in the Tuscola Country Fair and the Vassar Riverfest with a health promotion booth.



Ana Lugo and Janet Leaman relax at the Vassar Riverfest booth during a lull in the activity.

By doing so, we were blessed to meet many people and talk with them about their health concerns. Their positive response allowed us to provide them with hundreds of valuable health resources including pamphlets, books, and DVDs. In addition, a cooking class and two Stop Smoking clinics were scheduled to provide support for approximately 60 people who expressed a need.

While serving the community at the fair, we were blessed by fellow Christians from another denomination in Vassar. They expressed their joy to see us helping to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the community and encouraged us to join them and all the churches in the community at the Riverfest every year in a united front for God.

We took that as an affirming message from God to be more accessible and available. Too often, we have been invisible and hidden. Our recent fair experience was so positive that we are now encouraged to allow our light to shine bright into all the world.

We look forward to next year's fair when we will again set up our health promotion booth for the love and glory of God! The end? Not so—the beginning!

Carrie Klaus, Vassar Church personal ministries leader

## Church Members Support Troops

Michigan—The Buchanan Seventh-day Adventist Church members held a special social on Saturday evening, Nov. 4, 2006, to show support for military troops. Organized by Gyl Bateman, enough items were collected to fill 63 individual packages with personal hygiene items, games, writing materials, books, and magazines. They were sent overseas to be distributed for Christmas.

Gyl Bateman is a Blue Star Mother. Blue Star Mothers of America is a national organization that was started in 1942 during WWII to give support to our troops and their families. Members are mothers, aunts, grandmothers, and wives who have or have had a family member in the military. They offer support to each other in the ups and downs of things going on in their lives. Emotions can be proud and sad or happy and upset all at the same time. They also send cards and letters of encouragement and boxes with a touch of home to soldiers stationed in the U.S. and overseas to show them their 100 percent support. Participating in parades and memorials also shows their support of the soldiers.

Gyl's and her husband Brad's son, Bradley James Bateman, recently served in the military (see page 22). In addition to Bradley, the Buchanan Church has four others serving in the

Army, Air Force and Marines: Philip Seitenstich, Brandon Schau, Kevin Symonds, and Eric Doolittle.

If you are interested in learning more about the Blue Star Mothers, you may call 269-925-4123, or contact Gyl at 269-473-6725.

Avaline Stowe, Buchanan Church communication secretary

### [UNION NEWS]

## A Nurse Sows Seeds for a Harvest in West Africa

Indiana—So often we read Matt. 24:14 and, though we believe it is truth, we often wonder how it can be fulfilled. There are approximately 6.7 billion people on the planet. Nearly half have yet to be reached with the good news of Jesus' love for them.

I'm sure you feel the same way I do—you long for Jesus to come during your lifetime, in this generation. How are we to reach so many? How is The Great Commission to be fulfilled? The answer: One person at a time.

I have had the privilege to work for ten months among the Malinke, an unreached Muslim tribe in Mali, West Africa. I live in a mud hut as they do,

eat the same foods, use the same water sources, and share their daily lives. They have become my friends, and I have been honored to have them call me their friend.

Rarely can one simply travel to a new country and start preaching the gospel immediately. There are language and cultural differences to consider. Ninety percent of the Malinke are Muslim, which presents my team members and me with unique challenges in reaching them with the Gospel. They believe in Jesus, but only as a good man and prophet. How are we to help them see Jesus as their Savior and Lord?



Jennifer Blackburn cuddled a young boy at an orphanage she visited.

One of the best ways I have found past the cultural, language, and religious barriers is through medical outreach. This is not surprising, for we are told medical ministry is the right arm of the Body of Christ, the opening wedge into many people's hearts and lives (*Colporteur Ministry*, 131). I have found this to be so very true.

I have worked in the market at our blood pressure clinic every Wednesday, taught a grandmother how to use hot and cold compresses to relieve muscle pain, sponged the body of a young friend with cool water to help fight his fever, treated nasty oil burns on the leg of a terrified young girl, and cared for a friend after an operation. In each situation, a bond formed that helped me get to know the families better. None have made decisions for Jesus yet, but I trust my efforts are not in vain. The



Buchanan Church members show their support for soldiers by putting together Christmas boxes.



Oumar, Jennifer's very good friend who suffered from malaria, appreciated the hydrotherapy treatment she offered.

seeds of friendship and truth that were planted will spring up and bring about a bountiful harvest.

Jesus told Paul that "I have much people in this city" (Acts 18:10); I pray the same is true of Kangaba, Mali, West Africa. Would you help my team members and me as we strive to introduce the Malinke to Jesus? We need your prayers, even more than we need your financial support. We need to know we do not labor alone. Will you come along beside us, to support us? Will you help us reach the unreached in this generation?

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

Jennifer Blackburn is a registered nurse working with Adventist Frontier Missions. She was a former member of the Shelbyville Church in Indiana and a 2002 nursing graduate at Andrews University.

Jennifer recently shared her testimony at the Indiana Conference Women's Ministries Retreat where approximately \$2,300 was raised to support her team's mission efforts in Mali. A portion of the funds raised were used to purchase blood pressure cuffs, glucometers and the accompanying supplies to take blood sugars, various bandages and topical medications, and to pay for a Mali woman's hernia operation. For further information, you may write Jennifer at smile4jesus2day@gmail.com.

## Event Reaches Out to Single Moms

Indiana—Carol Radigan says she was privileged to teach and encourage single moms during the Single Mom's Retreat

the last week of June 2006. She believes ministry to single moms has definitely been overlooked (or looked away from) and underdeveloped.

Radigan expressed, "The commitment of the sponsoring churches, volunteer planners, and coordinators, under the leadership of Julie Loucks and Indiana Conference youth director Charlie Thompson, is truly "in His steps."

Timber Ridge Camp offered a peaceful, beautiful, and rustic setting, which made the ladies

feel they were really away from home on a respite. The cabins permitted true bonding time with other moms. Nearby Spencer, Ind., offered a good restaurant for an away-from-children meal, and Kwik Kuts hairdressers provided free haircuts for moms who wanted them. These outings helped the ladies feel enfolded in love.

Radigan taught on addictions—what they are and how they develop—and most importantly how each lady can take hold of the truth that she is precious and worthy, set aside the old, cling to the Lord and His truth, and start walking in freedom (see John 8:32).

We also talked about parenting skills and gave out many handouts, booklets, and books on these subjects. Every lady who needed one was provided with a Bible.

Time was allotted for personal ministry with the staff and Radigan. Several ladies took advantage of that time and risked opening up and asking for help—the first step of walking out of fear and into freedom. Many ladies opened up for the first time in their lives and shared, then received much compassion, tenderness, and a lot of hugs. And they began to give a lot of hugs and love to each other.

They found acceptance and support from everyone at the camp and among themselves.

This could not have happened without the caring camp staff. Radigan was so impressed with the friendliness and kind, tender, Christ-like attention the young staff provided. They welcomed the moms and their children and led them in planned recreation and craft activities. They laughed and played with the children, got to know them, and gave them a lot of time—which equals love! And the children soaked it up. There was a lot of laughter which was so good for them.



This year 24 single moms and their 44 children enjoyed a wonderful vacation at Timber Ridge Camp.

The teen girls gave the moms a candlelight "spa" treatment with a facial, manicure, or pedicure while the guys took care of the little ones. One very shy, scared, teen attendee had a hard time letting his mom out of sight. A counselor tenderly kept drawing him [out] until he participated. The young people were truly a witness of the love of Christ. They made a difference!

Radigan says she was grateful to have participated in and made aware of this single mom's ministry and hopes it will become a witness and model for a whole movement among churches throughout the country and beyond.



Kwik Kuts hairdressers in Spencer, Ind., volunteered their time and talents, offering free hairstyling to the single moms!

This year's retreat will be held June 21–24. The guest speaker will be Cheri Peters, founder of True Step Ministries, Inc. (see [www.truestep.org](http://www.truestep.org))

Peters' growing-up years were not very pretty. Born to 14- and 16-year-old addicts, Peters was abused and unwanted, and ended up on the streets by age 13. She spent the next ten years on the streets of Los Angeles, raised by addicts. Drugs, alcohol, and abuse were her life.



Cheri Peters (center) will speak to single moms at the 2007 Single Mom's Retreat in Indiana. Her ministry has brought hope and healing to thousands.

At 23, Peters was burned out, drug addicted, suicidal, and desperately looking for a way out. She found that way out in an incredible encounter with God, which led to meeting a woman who stepped into her life, introduced her to the Bible, mentored her, and encouraged Peters to fight for her recovery. At that time, Peters was fairly illiterate, strung out on heroin, and without healthy life skills.

Peters has since gotten off drugs, learned to read, received a degree in nursing, authored two books, hosted a world-wide television and radio show, and developed True Step Ministries, Inc., a faith-based organization, to help at-risk folks learn how to “fight for their recovery.”

Carol A. Radigan, a counselor at Christian Teaching & Encouraging Ministry, a not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to help individuals clearly identify their problems and put their lives back into harmony with God's order, through a better understanding of Scripture, and Julie Loucks, Indiana Conference Single Mom's Retreat correspondent



A young participant practiced her preaching at Timber Ridge Camp with the help of Robert Folkenberg Sr.

## Indiana Members Receive ShareHim Training

Indiana—During the past few months, many church members throughout Indiana have answered the call to become involved in evangelism firsthand. The *ShareHim* evangelistic program has swept across Indiana in a big way. *ShareHim* is an organization started by Robert Folkenberg Sr., former General Conference president, to equip members for evangelism both at home and overseas. It involves properly equipping and training to preach your own evangelistic series.

Through incredible technology, preaching an evangelistic series becomes a very exciting possibility. The program provides a top-notch sermon series, as well as first-class graphics. The program has been put together so well that almost anyone can do it. To date, *ShareHim* has trained more than 4,000 people around the world who went on to hold their own series. The youngest participant has been 11, and the oldest was 90. Once a person is trained, all the sermon material for the computer or the DVD is provided free by *ShareHim*.

To date, in Indiana, four training events for *ShareHim* have been held. These training “boot camps” took place



Coached by Ben Kochenower (left) during training, David Rosales (right) later held a series at the Northwest Church. One young man who came to the last meeting continued to study with David and has now been baptized. Two more are studying for baptism. David says, “Evangelism still works!”

at Timber Ridge Camp and at the Glendale, Fort Wayne, and South Bend churches. Folkenberg and his team provided the training at Timber Ridge Camp, and Ben Kochenower, a CPA from South Carolina, provided the training at the churches. To date, more than 100 people have been trained and have agreed to hold an evangelistic series in Indiana or abroad. In January, a group from Indiana is traveling to Ghana to conduct a series.

If you would like to get involved in this very exciting outreach, contact Paul Yeoman, Indiana Conference *ShareHim* coordinator, at the Conference office for additional information. The phone number is 317-844-6201.

Gary Thurber, Indiana Conference president

## Lake Union Continues to Mobilize for Disaster Responses

This past year was very busy and active for Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR) in the Lake Union. As the *Lake Union Herald* has reported, many of our members participated in the Gulf States relief efforts after the onslaught of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Teams from every Lake Union conference assisted in some way and made it possible for ACS DR to make a major impact in helping the survivors pick up and move on with their lives. Some teams traveled into the disaster areas, and others helped here at home by assisting with all levels of the response.



Damage from Hurricane Katrina was still present in New Orleans four months later, when this picture was taken.

On top of that, our best estimate is that \$400,000 was raised by our combined conferences directly for the relief effort. This money was converted to at least ten truck loads of urgently-needed supplies that were sent to our warehouses and distribution centers in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The remainder of the money is being used for ongoing support efforts to reestablish survivors in their homes and communities.

In appreciation for the help provided by members across the country, the North American Division (NAD) presented Service Awards to those unions who assisted with the hurricane response. An award for the Lake Union was presented at the bi-annual Adven-

tist Community Services Convention this past October in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

The Lake Union is not sitting around waiting for the next disaster event. All the recent activity has generated a lot of interest in ACS DR. Many have taken advantage of training opportunities in various locations to build their skill levels, so when the next event occurs they are ready to help those in need.

In April 2006, about 65 individuals from the Lake Region and Michigan conferences met for a retreat and training weekend at Michigan's camp meeting site in Cedar Lake, Indiana, Wisconsin, and the Lake Region have held other training weekends, as well.

In response to the interest, and because many more volunteers are needed for ACS DR, the Lake Union announces a Summit and training weekend at Andrews University the weekend of February 16-18. Joe Watts, NAD ACS DR coordinator, will be the keynote speaker. He has a rich history in disaster response ministry, having led the Southeastern Union's ACS DR for several years. He and his wife Sheryl head the Disaster Response Depot in Keene, Texas. Joe Watts accepted his current

position as NAD ACS DR coordinator right at the time Hurricane Katrina stormed across the Gulf of Mexico.

Planned for the Summit are several training activities, a list of which follows:

- ▶ **Disaster Preparation for Individuals, Families, and Churches**
- ▶ **Basic Donations Management for ACS DR Volunteers**
- ▶ **Forklift Driver Certification**
- ▶ **Mobile Kitchen Operations**
- ▶ **Chainsaw Response Team Operations**
- ▶ **Ham Radio and Communications Team Building**
- ▶ **Taking ACS into the 21st Century**
- ▶ **Along with other great seminars**

The Summit weekend was planned by leaders from each of the Lake Union conferences: Floyd Brock, Wisconsin; Fred Crowell, Illinois; Ralph Shelton (interim leader), Lake Region; Jose Vazquez, Indiana; Diana Bruch, Michigan ACS; and Royce Snyman, Lake Union ACS DR coordinator.



The North American Division presented Service Awards to unions which assisted with the hurricane response. An award was presented to Royce Snyman, Lake Union ACS DR coordinator, at the bi-annual Adventist Community Services Convention this past October. From left: Alvin Kibble, NAD vice president; Royce Snyman; Sung Kwon, NAD ACS director.

Registration for the weekend is handled by Cindy Stephan at the Michigan Conference office. Call Cindy at 517-316-1581 for more information, or e-mail her at: [cstephan@misda.org](mailto:cstephan@misda.org). The early bird registration fee is \$30, which includes lunch and supper on Sabbath. The registration deadline is February 1. The registration fee after the deadline is \$50.

Participants must arrange for their own housing and food by calling Andrews University Guest Services at 269-471-3664, or contact area hotels. Cindy Stephan can assist you with a list of housing options.

Food, other than lunch and supper on Sabbath, will be available for purchase by calling Andrews University Guest Services or at other local food establishments.

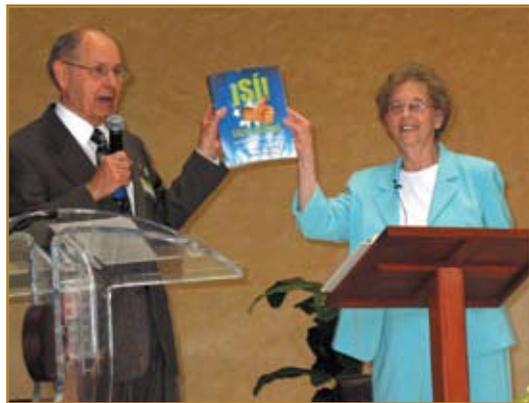
So, please mark your calendars for this eventful weekend. Hope to see you there!

Royce Snyman, Lake Union Conference Adventist Community Services Disaster Response coordinator

## New WIN! Wellness Resource Announced

Millie and John Youngberg will debut a user-friendly, total wellness program called *WIN! Wellness (WIN!)* at the North American Division Health Summit Orlando 2007, January 28–February 3. The Youngbergs' completion of this wellness package with 21 complete lectures, 1,100 PowerPoint visuals, handouts, and group strategies is just one more in a series of miracles.

In 2001, Millie was diagnosed with lymphoma. During her treatment, she and her husband John began to think about the need for a health ministry to include the effects of family relations and spirituality on an individual's



John and Millie Youngberg introduced the Spanish version of *WIN! Wellness* during the Family Life International Conference at Montemorelos University in July 2006.

health. It is a miracle that Millie is alive and that she bounced back from the brink of the grave to co-author a new total wellness approach—biological, spiritual, and family wellness. She feels that she was “saved to serve.”

Now, almost five years later, the *WIN! (Wellness Integrating Needs)* ministry has taken shape. The rationale for *WIN!* is simple. The eight natural remedies are essential. But in the book *The Ministry of Healing*, where they are outlined on page 127, these remedies are preceded by many chapters on spiritual healing and followed by seven chapters dealing with the family. In the thoughts of Ellen White, family and mind/spirit health are integral to biological health—thus the 21-factor

*WIN!* model was developed, giving equal treatment to the three areas of health. Seventh-day Adventist doctrines are gently integrated.

During the Family Life International Conference at Montemorelos University in July 2006, John and Millie Youngberg introduced the Spanish Version of *WIN!*, which is called *SI! Salud Integral (SI!)*. The first copy

of *SI!* was presented to the president of the North Mexico Union who ordered 1,000 copies for distribution among ministers, health educators, family life educators, colporteurs, and lay persons throughout his union.

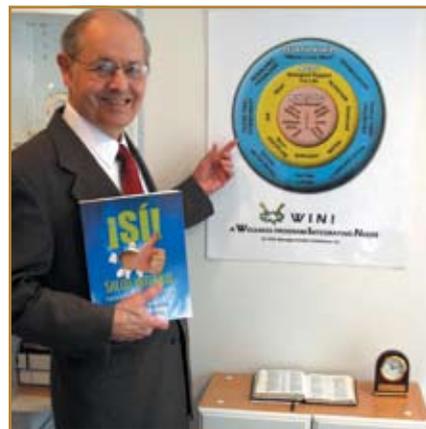
Zeno Charles-Marcel, dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Montemorelos University, said, “Every so often someone comes along with a fresh way of presenting ‘old truth.’ What the Youngbergs have done in *WIN!*—taking simple, basic health principles and relating them to the three most important spheres of our life and health—really is nothing short of being a masterpiece. The ‘system’ that they present is so intuitive and easy to grasp; it seems impossible that no one has thought of this before.”

The *WIN!* ministry has also spread to Guam where pastors have been trained to present the series evangelistically in Micronesia. Wes Youngberg, Dr.PH, director of the Wellness Center at The Guam Seventh-day Adventist Clinic, reports that members of other faiths and non-church goers are attending the meetings where *WIN!* materials are being shared.

At the Health Summit Orlando 2007, *WIN!* and *SI!* leadership training will be offered for health educators,



John and Millie Youngberg, professors emeriti of Andrews University, were honored for their publication of *WIN! Wellness (SI! Salud Integral)* during Family Life International at Montemorelos University in Mexico.

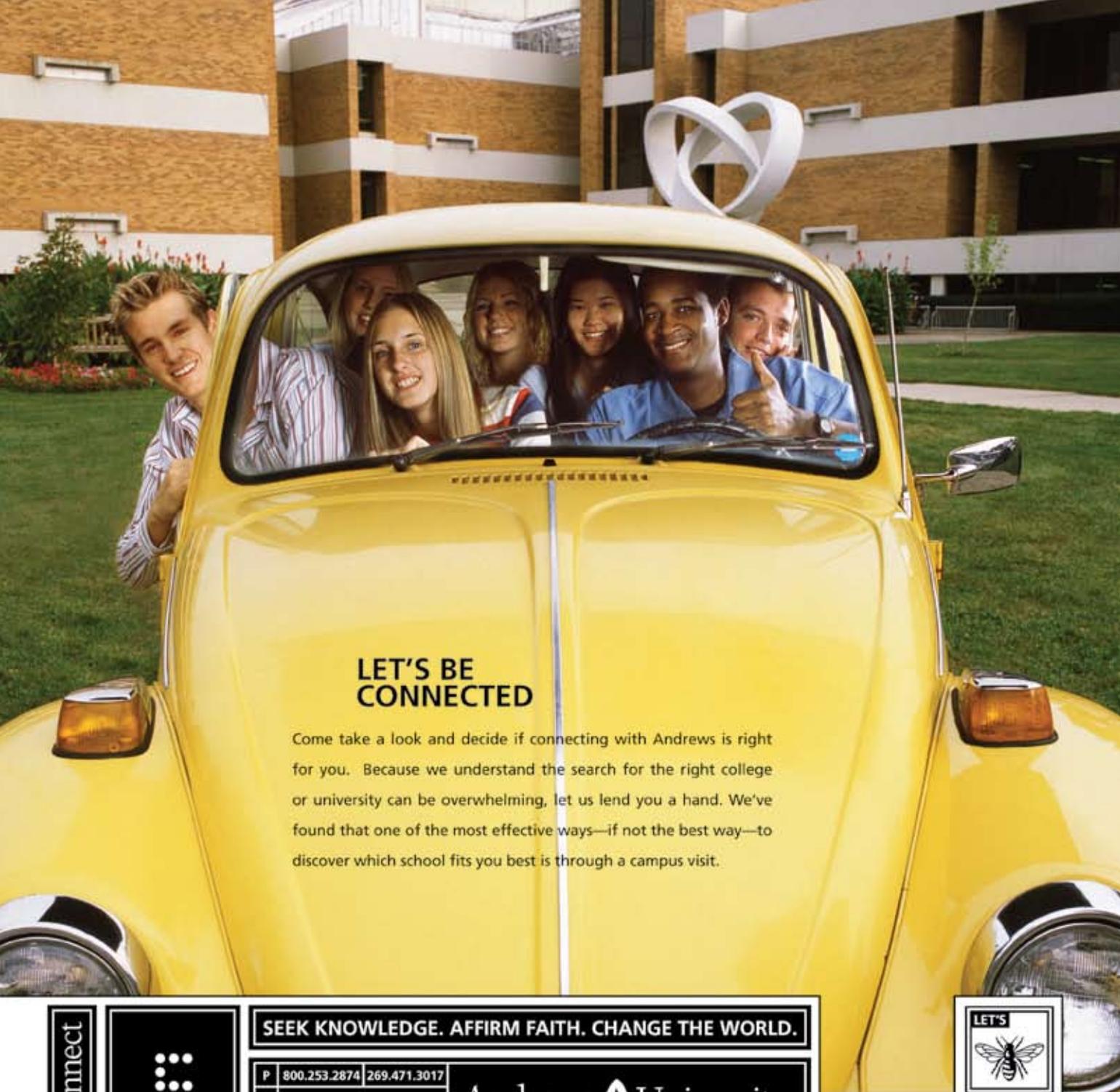


John Youngberg (pictured) and his wife Millie will debut *WIN! Wellness*, a user-friendly total wellness program, at the Health Summit Orlando 2007.

family ministry leaders, evangelists, community service and women's ministries leaders, as well as any qualified lay person interested. Electronic media and printed training manuals will be available to prepare leaders to spread the gospel and help individuals live healthier and happier lives.

For more information on the Health Summit Orlando 2007, call 800-732-7587 or visit [www.plusline.com/events](http://www.plusline.com/events). Click on the Health Summit Orlando 2007 and look for further information about *WIN!* and *SI!* training.

Marriage & Family Commitment, Inc. press release



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Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org). Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 43.

## Anniversaries



**Jack and Gwladys Blume** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 15, 2006, by a potluck luncheon after church on Sept. 16 in the brand new Princeton (Ill.) Church fellowship hall. They have been members of the Princeton Church for eight years.

Jack Blume and Gwladys Cole were married Sept. 15, 1946, in Evansville, Ind., by Elder M.E. Anderson. Jack has been a medical technologist for 40 years, retiring from Hinsdale Hospital in 1989. Gwladys has been a payroll and employee clerk at Hinsdale Hospital for 32 years, retiring in 1990.

The Blume family includes Sylvia and David Wade of La Salle, Ill.; Brenda Karpowicz of Dalzell, Ill.; Ledra and Charles Slavik of South Elgin, Ill.; Lisa Kay Blume of Princeton; six grandchildren; one step-grandchild; three great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.



**Ed and Gloria Pierce** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 24, 2005, by a family and friends dinner at Maple Corner in Covington, Ind. They have been members of the Danville (Ill.) Church for 42 years.

Ed Pierce and Gloria Christensen were married Dec. 24, 1955, in South Haven, Mich., by Pastor Hilgren. Ed is a piano technician. Gloria is retired from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

The Pierce family includes Alan and Deana Pierce of Danville; Rod and Kelli Pierce of Fithian, Ill.; Ryan and JoElle Pierce of Ooltewah, Tenn.; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

## Obituaries

**BURRIS, Olive W. (Reed)**, age 87; born Feb. 14, 1919, in Jasonville, Ind.; died Apr. 4, 2006, in Bloomington, Ind. She was a member of the Terre Haute (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Larry W. and Roger D.; brothers, Fred O. Jr. and James H. Reed; sister, Emma L. Gardner; 11 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Fish, and interment was in Peavey Cemetery, Howesville, Ind.

**COOK, Robert L.**, age 77; born May 16, 1929, in Holland, Mich.; died Sept. 21, 2006, in Sandusky, Ohio. He was a member of the Burlington (Mich.) Church.

Private graveside services were conducted by the family, and interment was in Oak Grove Cemetery, Coldwater, Mich.

**FREE, Nellie M. (Duke)**, age 77; born June 7, 1929, in Marengo, Ind.; died Oct. 11, 2006, in Paoli, Ind. She was a member of the Cedar Ridge Church, Paoli.

Survivors include her sons, Lloyd, Warren, Randall, Neil, and Scottie; daughters, Barbara Bundy, Vickie Thacker, Connie Wilson, Ranè Hughes, Nancy Froman, Diane Mares, and Lori Patton; brother, John Duke; sisters, Thelma Barnet, Mable Jenkins, and Kathryn Bobbit; 29 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Justin Childers, and interment was in Valeene (Ind.) Christian Church Cemetery.

**FRIST, Vivian M. (Lawson)**, age 90; born Jan. 2, 1916, in Madison Cty., Ind.; died Aug. 25, 2006, in Anderson, Ind. She was a member of the Anderson Church.

Survivors include her sons, Robert R. and Phillip; sister, Phyllis Hoylman; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Clinton Meharry, and interment was in Anderson Memorial Park Cemetery.

**HAFEY, Opal M. (Grandstaff)**, age 70; born Oct. 14, 1935, in Hartford, Mich.; died Feb. 11, 2006, in Grand Rapids, Mich. She was a member of the Lakeview (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, David, Bob, and Mike; daughters, Sherry Grimm, Patty Kjolhede, Karen Moon, and Paula Olsen; 16 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall and Tom Olsen, and interment was in Amble (Mich.) Cemetery.

**HAMSTRA, Barbara N. (Whitney)**, age 76; born Dec. 10, 1929, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Feb. 12, 2006, in Muskegon, Mich. She was a member of the Muskegon Church.

Survivors include her husband, Carl J.; sons, Thomas C. and Timothy G.; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ryan Counsell, with private inurnment.

**HANKS, Dorothy L. (Scutter)**, age 88; born Mar. 29, 1918, in Muskegon, Mich.; died Sept. 19, 2006, in Muskegon. She was a member of the Muskegon Church.

Survivors include her husband, Laurence; sons, David, Laurence "Larry", and Daniel; daughters, Mary Louise Fields, Jacqueline Hanks, Robin Hendrix, and Elsie "Cathy" Trumble; sisters, Elsie Gowell, Grace Carson, June Colburn, and Nancy Gill; 22 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Ryan Counsell, and inurnment was in Mona View Cemetery, Muskegon Heights.

**HELM, Herbert W.**, age 83; born Mar. 11, 1923, in Gary, Ind.; died Sept. 26, 2006, in Niles, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Doris D. (Covert); sons, Herbert W. Jr., Michael R., and

Steven K.; daughter, Nancy L. Church; and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Donald English and Douglas English, and Howard Drew, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

**HUTCHINSON, Mary (Knapp)**, age 80; born June 9, 1926, in Horton Bay, Mich.; died Sept. 23, 2006, in Charlevoix, Mich. She was a member of the Boyne City (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Larry; daughter, Sherry Munday; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors George Dronen and James Hord, with private inurnment.

**JONES, Jesusa "Susie" (Garcia)**, age 60; born Nov. 25, 1945, in San Antonio, Texas; died Oct. 7, 2006, in Edmore, Mich. She was a member of the Lakeview (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Francis; daughters, Connie Gibbs, Denise Cummings, and Angela Jones; brothers, Frank and George Garcia; sisters, Marta Ramierz, Lupe Garcia, and Jane Roman; and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall, and interment was in Decker Cemetery, Blanchard, Mich.

**KOVENER, Laura I. (Ray)**, age 93; born Nov. 4, 1912, in Vernon Twp., Ind.; died June 4, 2006, in Seymour, Ind. She was a member of the Scottsburg (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Rebecca Russell and Brenda Voss; 18 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Wright, and interment was in Adams Funeral Home Cemetery, Crothersville, Ind.

**LEYDER, Kenneth C.**, age 88; born Mar. 5, 1918, in Evart Twp., Osceola Cty., Mich.; died June 13, 2006, in Cadillac, Mich. He was a member of the Cadillac Church.

Survivors include his wife, Katherine (Bigford); son, Curtis; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder James Micheff Sr., and interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Highland Twp., Osceola Cty., Mich.

**NASH, Anna E. (Goettman)**, age 94; born Jan. 14, 1912, in Tell City, Ind.; died Oct. 6, 2006, in Newtonville, Ind. She was a member of the Tell City Church.

Survivors include her son, Raymond; daughter, Mina Moore; four grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Justin Childers, and interment was in Mount Zion Cemetery, Troy Twp., Ind.

**PATERSON, Geraldine F. (Craig)**, age 74; born Sept. 23, 1932, in Columbus, Ohio; died Oct. 11, 2006, in Wayland, Mich. She was a member of the Wright Church, Coopersville, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Thomas A.; and sister, Naomi Green.

Cremation services were conducted by Pastor Ron Mills, and inurnment was in Maple Hill Cemetery, Wright Twp., Mich.

**SMART, Jettie T. (Fish)**, age 89; born Dec. 11, 1916, in Cloquet, Minn.; died Sept. 3, 2006, in Peoria, Ill. She was a member of the Peoria Church.

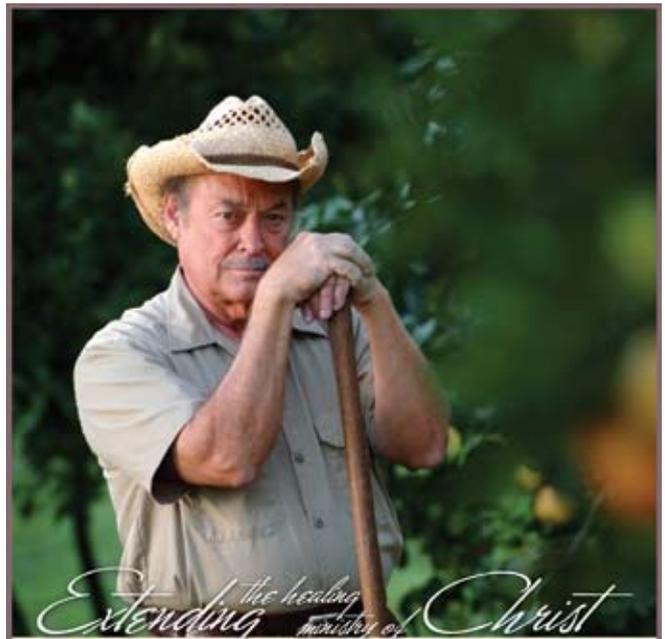
Survivors include her daughters, Darla Berglund, Jettie Kelly, and Patricia Stauthammer; brothers, Dale and Richard Fish; sister, Barbara Fish; nine grandchildren; one step-grandchild; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ronald Kelly Jr. and Dale Pittenger, and interment was in Wilton Mortuary, Peoria.

**STOTT, Lois (Plunz)**, age 81; born Oct. 15, 1924, in Pontiac, Mich.; died Sept. 24, 2006, in Shreveport, La. She was a member of the Central Lake (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, James and Bud; daughter, Barbara Stott; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were conducted by Pastor George Dronen, with private inurnment.



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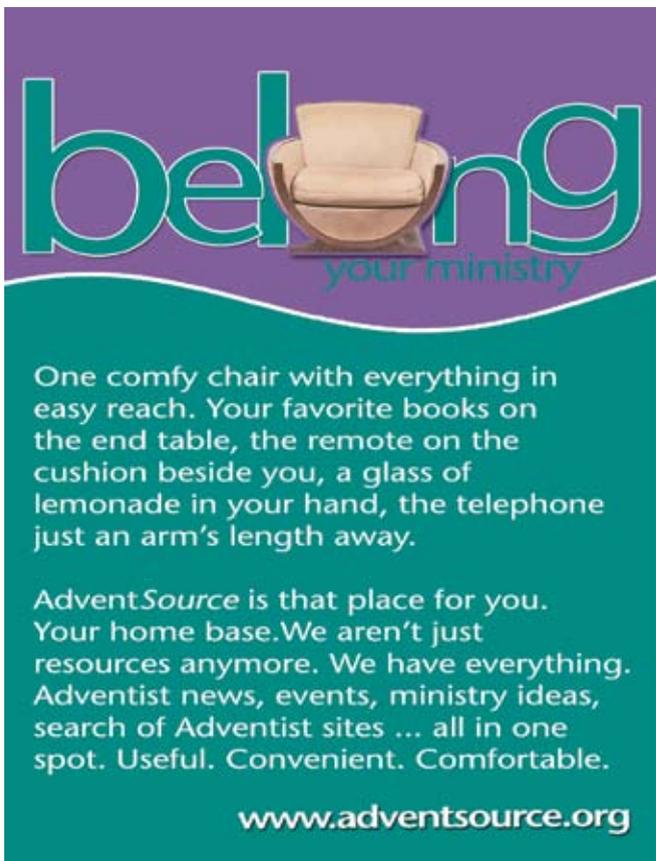
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**BERRIEN SPRINGS (MICH.) HOME FOR SALE:** Home includes 2,400 sq. ft., three bedrooms, two and a half baths,

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**NEW ADVENTIST REAL ESTATE OFFICE NOW IN BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICH.** Come visit our website at [www.WidnerRealty.com](http://www.WidnerRealty.com) to see our featured homes, listings in this general area, and also to meet us. We offer free buyer agency to promote your best interest. For more information, call Charo or Dan Widner at 269-471-1000.

### For Sale

**LOOKING FOR USED ADVENTIST BOOKS?** Check out [Adventistbooks.org](http://Adventistbooks.org), a student industry of Great Lakes Adventist Academy, or call The Cedar Reader at 866-822-1200.



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Sung Kwon, North  
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ACS and DR



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DR and LUC ACS and DR



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Fred Crowell, IL Conference  
ACS and DR

**The Lake Union Adventist  
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- ◆ **Planning for Future Disasters**
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**To Register Contact  
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The early bird registration fee is \$30, which includes lunch and supper on Sabbath. The registration deadline is February 1, 2007. The registration fee after the deadline is \$50. Participants must arrange for their own housing and food by calling Andrews University guest housing at 269-471-3664, or contacting motels in the area.



# Announcements

Churches, schools, conferences, institutions, and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org) and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change.

## Historic Adventist Village

**Historic Adventist Village** is closed during the week except for specially scheduled tours. The Village is open every Sabbath afternoon from 2:00–4:00 p.m. for tours of the James and Ellen White House. To schedule a tour, call Stanley Cottrell at 269-209-2915 or 269-965-3000. The Village will open again for full tours in April. Donations (\$5/person is suggested) support the Village.

## Indiana

**A Prayer Conference** will be held **Jan. 12–13** at Timber Ridge Camp with Peter Neri, Indiana Conference ministerial director. To register, contact Sheri DeWitt at 317-844-6201 or e-mail [sdewitt@indianaadventist.org](mailto:sdewitt@indianaadventist.org).

**Winter Ski Fest** will be held at Timber Ridge Camp **Jan. 25–28** for youth in grades 7–12, with Fri. and Sun. skiing at Paoli Peaks. For more information or for an application, go to [www.trcamp.org](http://www.trcamp.org), or call Trish Thompson in the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201.

**Marriage Maintenance Seminar** with Walter and Jackie Wright is rescheduled for **Feb. 2–4** at the Cicero Church. This conference-wide seminar is offered at no cost to the participants. The weekend begins Fri. at 7:00 p.m. and is sponsored by the Indiana Conference family ministries department. To register, contact Collene Kelly at 317-984-4376.

**Indiana Youth Rally '07** with guest speaker Pat Murphy from Andrews University will be held **Feb. 16–17**. Fri. evening program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Indiana Academy Chapel with free lodging at IA Fri. night! Sabbath programs will begin at 10:00 a.m. at Indianapolis Junior Academy. Sabbath lunch will be provided. You must register to attend. For more in-

formation, go to [www.trcamp.org](http://www.trcamp.org), or call the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201.

**Teen Caving Event:** Explore the underground wonders of southern Indiana with knowledgeable guides, plus enjoy fellowship and spiritual programming throughout the weekend. Event to be held at Timber Ridge Camp **Mar. 23–25**. To register, go to [www.trcamp.org](http://www.trcamp.org), or contact the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201.

## Lake Region

**Advertise with us—Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) Alumni Association.** Our *Souvenir Booklet* will be in the hands of more than 1,000 potential customers throughout the Detroit Metropolitan area and suburbs. At PWA, we are producing future leaders, citizens who will be productive, resourceful, and eager to patronize your business. If you would like to help us take this "Journey to Excellence," please contact Shirley Y. Tatum at 313-396-0245, or e-mail [Tatums@michigan.gov](mailto:Tatums@michigan.gov) for ad specifications and rates. Our theme is "Living Life Above 'See Level'—We Walk by Faith Not by Sight."

## Lake Union

### Offerings:

- Jan 6** Local Church Budget
- Jan 13** Local Conference Advance
- Jan 20** Local Church Budget
- Jan 27** Religious Liberty
- Special Days:**
- Jan 6** Day of Prayer
- Jan 20–27** Religious Liberty Week

**Florida's 16th Annual Lake Union Academies Alumni Reunion** will be held **Mar. 3**, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Forest Lake Academy. Alumni and friends of all Lake Union academies are invited to attend. A potluck will follow. Please bring your own plates and eating utensils. For more information, contact the alumni directors at the Lake Union academies.

## North American Division

**WIN! Wellness Seminar (WIN!)**, a new total wellness approach, will make its debut at the Health Summit Orlando 2007, **Jan. 28–Feb. 3**. Drs. John, Millie, and Wes Youngberg will present *WIN!*, integrating instruction on physical, spiritual, and relational health within a gospel setting. *WIN!* gives a gentle introduction to Adventist doctrines and is evangelistic. There will be hands-on training in English and Spanish using the 21 factors and dynamic PowerPoint graphics. An Instructor's Certificate will be given. *WIN!* is recommended for health educators, evangelists, family ministry leaders, women's ministries, community service, and qualified lay persons. For further information, visit [www.plusline.org/events](http://www.plusline.org/events), or call 800-732-7587.

**Union College (Neb.) Homecoming:** Alumni, friends, and former faculty are invited to *Meet Me at the Rock Pile* **Apr. 5–8**. Honor classes are 1937, '47, '52, '57, '67, '77, '82, '87, and '97. For more information, contact the alumni office at 402-486-2503; 3800 South 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506; or e-mail [alumni@uncollege.edu](mailto:alumni@uncollege.edu).

**Southwestern Adventist University's Homecoming Weekend** is **Apr. 12–15**. Alumni and friends are invited to participate in the 25th year reunion concert of the *Keene Camerata*, Apr. 14. Honor classes: 1932, '37, '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, and '97. For more information, please e-mail [bevm@swau.edu](mailto:bevm@swau.edu), or visit our website at [www.swau.edu](http://www.swau.edu).

### "Developing People Through Libraries,"

the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians 2007 Conference, will be held **June 17–22**, at Helderberg College, Somerset West, South Africa. Librarians of all specialties are welcome to attend. For registration information visit [www.asdal.org](http://www.asdal.org), or contact Sabrina Riley at 402-486-2600 ext. 2154, or e-mail [sariley@college.edu](mailto:sariley@college.edu).

**Mission Podcast:** Adventist Mission's free video podcast shows how the Seventh-day Adventist Church is sharing Jesus with the world. Each video brings you to the front lines of mission, face to face with people telling the world about Christ. Stories vary in length from one to two minutes up to ten minutes. Many of the stories on the podcast can also be found on the quarterly *Adventist Mission DVD* shown in local churches around the world. To subscribe, go to [www.AdventistMission.org](http://www.AdventistMission.org) and click on the subscribe link.

**Oregon Conference Relocates:** The headquarters for the Adventist Church in Western Oregon and Southwest Washington has moved from Clackamas to Gladstone, Ore. The office is now located at Gladstone Park Conference Center, 19800 Oatfield Rd., Gladstone, OR 97027. For additional information, visit [www.OregonConference.org](http://www.OregonConference.org).

## Sunset Calendar

	Jan 5	Jan 12	Jan 19	Jan 26	Feb 2	Feb 9
Berrien Springs, Mich.	5:28	5:35	5:43	5:51	5:59	6:08
Chicago, Ill.	4:32	4:40	4:47	4:56	5:04	5:13
Detroit, Mich.	5:13	5:20	5:28	5:37	5:45	5:54
Indianapolis, Ind.	5:33	5:40	5:47	5:55	6:03	6:11
La Crosse, Wis.	4:41	4:48	4:56	5:05	5:14	5:24
Lansing, Mich.	5:17	5:25	5:33	5:41	5:50	5:59
Madison, Wis.	4:36	4:43	4:51	5:00	5:08	5:18
Springfield, Ill.	4:47	4:53	5:01	5:09	5:17	5:25



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## PARTNERSHIP *with* GOD **A Man of Honor**

BY TERRY BENEDICT



Many are familiar with the story of Desmond T. Doss, and how he single-handedly rescued and lowered 75 fallen soldiers to safety from Hacksaw Ridge during the battle of Okinawa. Following that heroic event, orders came down from the Division that the escarpment had to be taken no matter what the cost.

By then, the men of "B" Company had come to implicitly trust Desmond. He was their security blanket. Men who had not wanted to go into battle with a man who wouldn't carry a gun felt safe knowing that Desmond would take care of them no matter what. But the day was Saturday, May 5, 1945, Desmond's day of rest. Captain Vernon asked Desmond, the only medic they had left, if he would mind going on the mis-

sion. Desmond agreed if he could finish his private devotions first. Captain Vernon knew that a request to delay the assault would affect the entire Division, but he sent it up the chain of command anyway. The delay was granted by Colonel Hamilton—the same man who had tried to shame Desmond into carrying a gun during basic training.

Desmond simply lived his life the way he imagined Christ would. He told me, "I was fighting for freedom by trying to save life instead of taking life, because I couldn't picture Christ there with a gun killing people. I like to think of Him out there with an aide kit like me."

Terry Benedict is a filmmaker. He produced "The Conscientious Objector," a documentary about the life of Desmond T. Doss.

# Held Above the Waves

BY LINDA-ROSE FLONISE MICHEL

Something happened that changed my life forever. I went to Michigan Adventure with my church's youth group, and looked forward to a day of fun with friends, riding the rides, and swimming in the water attractions. The wave pool looked pretty exciting. I had never been in a wave pool and didn't know what it was like, but since I love trying new things I was all for it!

My friends charged right in and soon were getting farther and farther away from shore. I realized I was left behind, so I quickly charged toward my friends. Soon I was on unsafe ground. The waves kept rushing over my head and knocking me off my feet.

Knowing I was in trouble, I quickly turned and tried to make my way to shore. I am not a great swimmer, and the waves were at least eight feet high. They knocked me over and dragged me. Whenever a wave knocked me under, I popped up, grabbed a mouthful of air, and tried to get as far away as possible before the next wave hit.

Eventually, I decided this plan was not working. I determined to take a deep breath and swim as hard as I could toward the shore and not stop until I absolutely had to come back up for air. But when I popped up, another wave hit from above, so there was no time for me to get air. I became extremely low on oxygen. My head, heart, and lungs felt as if they would burst. I was so panicked—thrashing, pushing, and striving.

Then it hit me. I wasn't going to get out. I was so exhausted without enough air that there was no way to pull myself out. I realized I was going to die. At that moment, a peace and calmness completely filled me. I stopped moving

and let the waves tug me back and forth.

All of a sudden a thought came to my mind: *How can you give up? There are so many people around you; the pool is filled with so many ... just reach out and grab someone.*

So I did. The man I grabbed was confused at first, but when he realized the seriousness of this action he held on tight and pulled me up out of the waves. I held on for dear life, knowing he would hold me up.

Choking and gasping for air, I couldn't even say thank you. My blurry eyes couldn't see his face. All I know is he asked me over and over if I was okay. And I was.

Being saved is a humbling process. It eliminates options. It means totally giving up the hope of being fine on your own, that you can take care of yourself, and that you don't need anyone for security. It's relying completely on someone else because without them ... you're done.

That's where Jesus steps in. Just reach out and grab Him! He will hold you above any waves of sin, defeat, and death. And even though you've never seen His face, you know He's there. Why? Because He holds us above the waves.

Linda-Rose Flonise Michel is a senior at Andrews Academy in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and attends the Pioneer Memorial Church. She will receive a \$100 scholarship since her article was selected for publication.



Photo by Tyler Burns

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**Indiana:** Gary Thurber, president; George Crumley, secretary/treasurer; street address: 15250 N. Meridian St., Carmel, IN 46032; mailing address: P.O. Box 1950, Carmel, IN 46082-1950; (317) 844-6201.

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**Michigan:** Jay Gallimore, president; Fred Earles, secretary; Leroy Bruch, treasurer; street address: 320 W. St. Joseph St., Lansing, MI 48933; mailing address: P.O. Box 19009, Lansing, MI 48901; (517) 316-1500.

**Wisconsin:** Donald Corkum, president; Roger Driver, secretary/treasurer; street address: 3505 Highway 151 North, Sun Prairie, WI 53590; mailing address: P.O. Box 7310, Madison, WI 53707-7310; (608) 241-5235.

**Contributors:** All submitted copy must be channeled through your local conference or institution's *Herald* correspondent. Stories submitted online at [luc.adventist.org](http://luc.adventist.org) are automatically e-mailed to the local conference communication director. When submitting stories by direct e-mail, copy your local conference correspondent into the address. Writers' Guidelines are available online.

Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

**Erik Caceras**, age 18, arrived at Broadview Academy the second semester of his junior year. Erik grew up in Wisconsin and is the son of Alex and Elsie Caceras. He attends the Gurnee Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Erik Caceras

Though very busy academically, Erik holds three very important offices on campus: Student Association president, Senior Class pastor, and Boys Club pastor. He is also a resident assistant in the dorm, helping to create a more spiritual dorm atmosphere.

Erik takes his responsibilities seriously and is a role model for his classmates. As he interacts with students, he believes God has blessed him with the ability to understand the trials they may be going through and is then able to speak words of encouragement.

Erik is very thankful to attend Broadview Academy because he feels Broadview has been instrumental in bringing about a change in his life. He is growing spiritually there and desires to serve the Lord any way he can, whether it is going on mission trips, public speaking for Jesus, or simply being a friend on campus.

After graduation, Erik plans to attend an Adventist university and major in corporate business. He feels God will use him to reach people in the business world who might otherwise not hear the good news of the gospel—that Jesus is coming soon.

**Heidi McNeal**, age 18, is a four-year senior at Broadview Academy. She is the daughter of Ryan and Sabrina McNeal from Kankakee, Illinois, and attends the New Jerusalem Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Heidi McNeal

Even though Heidi's senior-year schedule is very full, she finds time to play basketball and also enjoys taking piano lessons and singing. Heidi loves to cook and appreciates learning new things. As a senior, she feels the need to be a positive role model for her fellow classmates.

Many things have contributed to Heidi's spiritual growth at Broadview Academy, such as her involvement with the *Passion Play* last year and also school pastor Jason Calvert's influence her junior year. She was also inspired by visiting speakers for week of prayer and other special events.

After graduating in May, Heidi would like to attend Andrews University. She wants to help people live healthier lives by becoming a dietitian. This issue is very close to her heart since her father and other family members suffer from diabetes. Heidi wants to follow in the footsteps of Jesus to minister to those who need physical and spiritual healing.

These students were selected and profiled by faculty members at their school. To recommend outstanding students for recognition, speak with your pastor or a faculty member. Visit [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org) for selection criteria.

## Address Correction

Members of the Lake Region Conference and paid subscribers should contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Members from the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin conferences should now contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all *Lake Union Herald* address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right.

**Lake Union Herald:** (269) 473-8242

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January 27, 2007



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